Hafa Adai!

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FAC rate increases today due to rise in fuel prices. PAGE 3

CNMI's total population down by 12.2%. PAGE 4

IN THE CNMI'S BIGGEST SPIKE YET

21 cases over the weekend

By JOSHUA SANTOS
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REPORTER

Between Oct. 28 and 29, the CNMI's tally of positive COVID-19 infections went from 291 to 312 as of Saturday—a jump of 21 new cases.

This was a departure from the usual, when the CNMI would see just one or two new cases every week, all of them from new arrivals from Guam. The new cases also broke the CNMI's 217-day streak of zero community transmissions.

See CASES on Page 4

'Shutting down schools is prudent thing to do'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres explained Friday that his decision to shut down classes in the CNMI is not just the right thing to do but is also the prudent thing to do, considering that contact tracing is still ongoing as a result of the COVID-19 community transmission.

Speaking at his regular radio news briefing over KKMP, Torres said they understand the dangers of the

See SCHOOLS on Page 4

'NO TRICKS, JUST TREATS'
The newly-constructed huts on the grounds of the NMI Museum of History & Culture are put to good use during yesterday's "No Tricks, Just Treats." Inset shows one of many outdoor inflatables that were on display. The Rotary Club of Saipan and Rotaract Club of Saipan, in collaboration with the NMI Museum, hosted the Halloween event that also featured a movie night inside the museum, various live performances, contests, and more. JOSHUA SANTOS

Air Seoul, Air Busan eye Nov. flights to Saipan

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
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REPORTER

Two South Korean airlines, Air Seoul and Air Busan, which have shown an interest in flying to Saipan as a result of the success of the Tourism Resumption Investment Plan, are both looking at making their maiden flights to Saipan this November.

In a brief statement from Marianas Visitor Authority managing director Priscilla Ia-

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AT A GLANCE

As of 7:40pm, Oct. 31, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated: **83.7%**

Days since last community transmission: **2**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	30,589
Fully Vaccinated:	29,875
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,897
Fully Vaccinated:	4,733
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	872

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	18,040	168[1]	18,208
Recovered	15,669	24	15,693
Active	2,109	168	2,277
Deaths	235	3	238

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	291	21[2]	312
Traced via Travel Screening	254	2	256
Traced via Community Screening	35	21	56
Deaths	3	0	3

[1]10/31=21; 10/30=36; 10/29=111
[2]10/30=8; 10/29=10;10/28=3

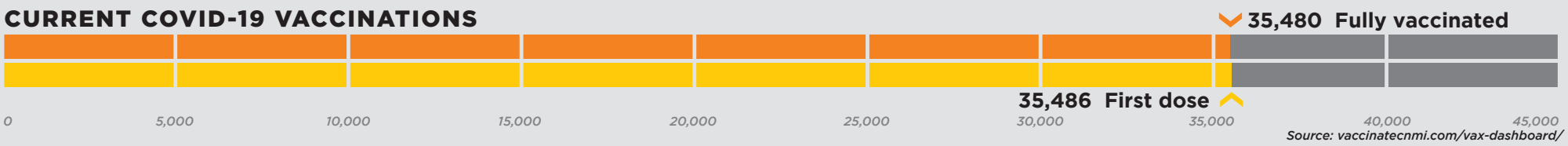
Source: Joint Information Center – Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

INSIDE

LOCAL
Saipan and Katori City in Japan have made official a sister-city agreement between the two.

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LOCAL
Rep. Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan) finishes the Law and the Freshman Legislator seminar.

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LOCAL
Two former Northern Marianas College students compete in the ROTC Ranger Challenge Competition.

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Local

House overrides Torres' veto of feasibility study on casino gaming

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives overrode Friday Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' veto of a provision in the budget bill that would require the conduct of a feasibility study on casino gaming, but failed to muster enough votes to override a veto that would prohibit taxpayers from footing the utility bills of the governor, lieutenant governor, and legislative officers at their personal residences.

The House also failed to override the governor's veto on a provision in the budget bill that deals with the American Rescue Plan Act spending plan.

It was House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Donald M. Manglona (Ind-Rota) who made the three motions to override. To pass the override the vetoes, the House needed 14 "yes" votes, according to House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan). The House is composed of 20 representatives. Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) was absent but was excused from the session last Friday.

With 15 voting "yes," three voting "no," and two absences, the House overrode Torres' veto on Section 704(c), a provision in the budget bill that requires the Office of Planning and Development to conduct a feasibility study on the casino gaming industry in the Commonwealth using $50,000 of its own budget.

Rep. Roy Ada (R-Saipan), who attended the session via conference call, did not reply during voting and was considered absent in this motion.

Those who voted "no" were Reps. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), Patrick San Nicolas (R-Tinian), and Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan).

In order for an override to be effective, the Senate also has to entertain a motion of its own for the same section that the House successfully voted to override.

With 11 voting "yes," eight voting "no", and one absence, the House failed to pass the motion to override the governor's line-item veto on Section 601, a provision in the budget bill that appropriates funds for the payment of utilities for the Legislative and Judicial branches, while the payment of utilities for the Executive Branch is allocated under the American Rescue Plan Act under government utilities.

» House fails to override governor's veto on 2 other provisions in budget bill

The eight who voted "no" were all minority bloc members—Vice Speaker Blas Jonathan Attao, and Reps. Roy Ada, Joel Camacho, Angel Demapan, Joseph Flores, Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero, Patrick San Nicolas, and John Paul Sablan. All are Republicans, except Flores, who is an Independent.

With 11 "yes" votes, eight "no" votes, and one absent, the House failed to pass the motion to override Torres' veto on Section 802(d), a provision that mandates that no changes be made to the allocations of outside sourced funds in the ARPA spending plan without legislative consent in the form of a House joint resolution.

The eight who voted "no" were minority bloc members—Attao, Ada, Rep. Joel Camacho, Demapan, Flores, Guerrero, John Paul Sablan, and San Nicolas.

Floor leader Ralph N. Yumul (R-Saipan) voted "yes" to all three motions.

In a later press statement, Demapan said the minority bloc supports reasonable cap for utilities for official residences. Demapan said the House minority elected to forego an override on the line-item veto of Section 601 and instead will work on legislation to clarify the provision of official residences for eligible elected officials as well as the implementation of a reasonable cap on the amount of utility charges allowed per month.

Demapan said the minority bloc acknowledges that the law is currently too vague and needs to be amended to add safeguards. "In particular, the minority [bloc] would like to explore provisions clarifying the use of private residences in the absence of functional government dwelling units, and the implementation of reasonable caps on allowable utility charges," he said.

At the start of the session, Manglona said the House has 60 days from the receipt of the governor's veto message to reconsider the vetoed provisions in the legislation. That places the deadline at Nov. 30, he said.

He said the Ways and Means Committee identified three line-item vetoes that they would like to override.

One was Torres veto of Section 601, which prohibits the payment of utilities of personal residences of the governor and the lieutenant governor and presiding officers of the Legislature.

Manglona said the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee hearings that is investigating Torres' expenditures and travels has uncovered utility records that indicate excessive use of water and power. He said while the governor and lieutenant governor are entitled to government housing, paying the utilities of their personal residences in lieu of providing them housing, still goes against the statute.

"And just because past administrations have done it doesn't mean we shall continue this trend," Manglona said.

Rep. Leila Staffler (D-Saipan) pointed out that the law does not say anywhere that the utility bills shall be paid in lieu of the government housing not being available.

Staffler said the Department of Finance's practice of authorizing utility payments for not just one but several residences of the governor alone is not authorized by law and should cease immediately.

"That is one of the main reasons that we propose to override that veto," Staffler said.

Rep. Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan) said just because it was done that way in the past it doesn't necessarily mean that it's the right thing. "As our law states, there's actually nothing in there that says that that practice is allowed," Magofna said.

She said they'd have to find a better way to go about it and that's what they would like to give the governor and other officials.

On Torres' line-item veto on Section 704(c), Manglona

See CASINO on Next Page

DUE TO RISE IN FUEL PRICES

FAC rate increases today

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has been notified by its fuel supplier, Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc., that there has been an increase in the average international fuel oil prices which will affect the Fuel Adjustment Charge. As a result, the current FAC rate of $0.19355 per kWh will increase to $0.23296 per kWh effective today, Nov. 1, 2021.

The FAC is one of two components that make up the CUC electric kWh rate, which is used to purchase fuel. The second component is the CUC base rate, which is used to fund operations, projects, and debt service. This base rate has not been increased since April 17, 2014.

CUC is required, pursuant to an order previously issued by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, to adjust (up or down) the FAC pass-through rate when the Mean of Platts Singapore monthly pricing equals or exceeds a 4.5% differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel used in the calculation of the current FAC rate.

CUC first instituted the Levelized Energy Adjustment Clause in 2009 to recover fuel and fuel related costs, a system also used by power providers in Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In May 2015, the CPUC authorized CUC to change the name of LEAC to FAC to provide customers a more accurate description of the electric rate. ***(PR)***

CASINO

From Page 2

said that, while the governor states that this should be left to the Commonwealth Casino Commission, they feel that the CCC may not have the capacity to conduct a study and therefore OPD is best suited for this study.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan), who chairs the House Gaming Committee, said that such a study is within OPD's powers and that they need an independent, professional and impartial study of the market feasibility and regulatory structure for the gaming industry for the CNMI.

He said the gaming industry in the CNMI started off wrong from the very beginning, including the way the second casino act was written, the selection of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC without due diligence, the changing terms of the license agreement, and the lack enforcement of the CNMI laws.

"We have an opportunity right now to learn from history," he said.

This study, Propst said, is a critical first step in the right direction and that OPD is the most appropriate agency to contract with a qualified firm to conduct a study.

He said OPD is in the process of finalizing a comprehensive economic development plan for the Commonwealth and that plan currently is silent on the future of the CNMI gaming industry.

"They agree that a consideration of the future of gaming should be part of this planning process," he said.

Propst noted that Marianas Visitors Authority's own 10-year tourism recovery strategy also says absolutely zero about the future of gaming in the tourism plan.

He said OPD is already mandated by law to conduct such research and development studies to help guide the CNMI's planning process and to assist policy makers in the decision making.

Propst pointed out that the Commonwealth Casino Commission is also currently already entangled with IPI in the legal battle over the suspension and revocation of the casino license, lack of staff, and may have a conflict in terms of its ability to be fair and impartial.

Rep. Sheila J. Babauta (D-Saipan) said $50,000 to conduct a study is a small amount to find information that would be helpful to the community and decision makers.

The third line-utem veto refers to Section 802 (d), which is the ARPA expenditure. Manglona said this particular provision, which both Senate and House agree on, requires the joint legislative approval for any actions that will be taken on Volume Four of ARPA.

He said Torres only pointed out one concern in his veto message—that it would delay efficient processes already in place. Manglona said Torres goes on to mention that the spending plan was approved by U.S. Treasury and that they have already made significant changes between the April and July submission.

"This is all of the more reason to ensure that the spending plan of the U.S Treasury is being followed and that these changes, which we agreed upon by adopting the governor's Volume Four proposal is being followed and does not deviate from that spending plan and that the allocations we have made in the general fund, which rely heavily on the funds, the departments and agencies will be receiving through ARPA," he said.

See CASINO on Next Page

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DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
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Kagman Community Center, P.O. Box 501000 C.K. Saipan, MP 96950

VOUCHER ASSISTANCE FOR SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

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Funding for the CSBG-DS Voucher Program will be made available on a first come – first served basis for:

Saipan	120 students
Tinian	40 students
Rota	40 students

Eligible items:
- Hygienical Supplies
- School Supplies
- Cleaning Supplies
- Clothing
- Beddings

Registration deadline:
November 12, 2021, 4:30 p.m.

Eligibility Requirements:
- Must meet income eligibility requirements.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or an Eligible Alien.
- Was residing in the CNMI during Typhoon Mangkhut or Super Typhoon Yutu.
- Currently living in FEMA tent, with neighbors, family members, or friends as a result of the disaster.
- Currently living in the CNMI.
- Child(ren) are enrolled in School Year 2021-2022.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, PLEASE CALL DYS OFFICE AT YOUR RESPECTIVE ISLAND:
- Kagman Community Center, Saipan: 237-1017 / 1018
- DYS Administration Office, Saipan: 237-1000 / 1001 / 1002
- DYS Office, Tinian: 433-9272
- DYS Office, Rota: 532-9333

For additional inquiries, please call or email:
Jennifer Tanaka: 237-1017, via email at jtanaka@dys.gov.mp
Nina Nekaifes: 237-1018, via email at nnekaifes@dys.gov.mp

This program is made possible by the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Disaster Relief Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-20) Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

CNMI's total population down 12.2%, says US Census

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI's total population went down from 53,883 in 2010 to 47,329 as of April 1, 2020, which is 6,554 fewer people or a 12.2% drop, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2020 Census results for the Commonwealth that was released last weekend.

The last Census release, which provides the total CNMI population, the population of each municipality and district, and the population change between 2010 and 2020, showed that the population decline was pretty much across-the-board, except for the Northern Islands, which actually showed a gain of seven residents in 2020, as opposed to zero in 2010.

US CENSUS COUNT
- **2020**: 47,329
- **2010**: 53,883

It was the Tinian municipality that showed the steepest drop in population, from 3,136 recorded in 2010, to just 2,044 in 2020—a 34.8% population decline, followed by Rota, which showed a 25.1% decrease in its population. There were 2,527 people on Rota in 2010 and 1,893 in 2020, which is fewer by 634.

For the Saipan Municipality, there were 48,220 people in 2010 and 43,385 in 2020, which is a decrease of 4,835 people or a 10% drop.

For Saipan District 1, there were 15,160 in 2010 and 13,633 in 2020, which is fewer by 1,527 or a 10.1% decrease. For Saipan District 2, there were 6,382 people in 2010 and 5,489 in 2020, which is fewer by 893, or down by 14.1%. For Saipan District 3, there were 15,624 people in 2010 and 14,115 in 2020, which is fewer by 1,509, or a 9.7% drop. For Saipan District 4, there were 3,847 in 2010 and 3416 in 2020, which is 431 fewer, or an 11.2% decrease. For Saipan District 5, there were 7,207 in 2010 and 6,732 in 2020, which is 475 fewer, or down by 6.6%.

On housing unit counts, there were 20,850 in 2010 and 18,290 in 2020, which is 2,560 fewer, or a 12.3% drop.

For the Northern Islands Municipality, there was zero housing unit in 2010 and 10 in 2020.

For the Rota Municipality, there were 1,049 housing units in 2010 and 912 in 2020, which is 137 fewer, or a 13.1% decrease.

For the Saipan Municipality, there were 18,683 housing units in 2010 and 16,523 in 2020, which is 2,160 fewer, or down by 11.6%.

For Tinian, there were 1,118 housing units in 2010 and 845 in 2020, which is 273 fewer, or a 24.4% drop.

The U.S. Census said this provides the first 2020 Census results for CNMI and that they will will provide more information about additional Island Areas data products and the release schedule as they finalize their plans.

The 2020 Island Areas Census counted people living in the CNMI, Guam, American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The U.S. Census Bureau conducted the decennial census in partnership with the Island Areas governments in compliance with Title 13 of the U.S. Code and to meet the specific data needs of the Island Areas.

'Possibility of community spread not a big surprise'

By JOSHUA SANTOS
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muña assured that the CNMI's COVID-19 protocols are working and the CNMI's health leaders acknowledge that a risk of spread will always exist as the CHCC and the COVID-19 Task Force continue to work to protect the community from COVID-19.

"We knew that there was that possibility of getting a case [of community spread] here in the CNMI, so this is not a big surprise. It is a surprise, but it is not a surprise that will require everything to stop," said Muña during Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' regular radio news briefing last Saturday.

In the same news briefing, COVID-19 Task Force chair Warren Villagomez said the CNMI's COVID-19 situation is always evolving, and he assured that the existing accommodations at the quarantine site at Kanoa Resort Saipan are adequate.

"Things are evolving, investigations are ongoing, as well as efforts to make sure that we have ample accommodations at Kanoa. ...Nevertheless, we as people here in the CNMI [are] asking everyone to continue to adhere and follow the three W's: wear your mask, wash your hands keep the distance," said Villagomez.

Ahead of Halloween and All Soul's Day last weekend, Villagomez said that he and the task force have not planned to take any swift action on community events. "We are not planning to do any swift community action at this time. All Soul's Day is still as planned [and] Halloween trick-or-treating is still ongoing. We are adding more enforcements out there to make sure that we don't take away these events from our community," he added.

Muña said the individual who was identified as positive for COVID-19 from school-based testing was ineligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine and said that six members of this individual's household tested positive as well, with one of the six being unvaccinated and experiencing symptoms.

She also said that CHCC's contact tracing team has been working tirelessly to find the index case, or the origin of the community spread of COVID. As she had stated during previous radio briefings, Muña said those eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine to get vaccinated.

"Something we're seeing again [is that] there's individuals that are ineligible to be vaccinated that are still at risk. We've mentioned in previous briefings that we're urging everybody to please get vaccinated, [and] if you're eligible, get it. We have a lot more people… [getting] their third shot which is encouraging, but we still have a large number of individuals that have not gotten their first shot, and that's the biggest concern that we've had," said Muña.

Torres said that, along with the efforts of the task force and CHCC, preventing the spread of COVID-19 in the CNMI requires a collective effort from the community.

"This is a partnership with the community. We can only put so [many] barriers, so [many] restrictions, so [many] protocols, but at the end of the day we need everyone. … The community has done very well in listening to and following all the protocols… [but] we're not done yet," said Torres.

CASES

From Page 1

In a series of news releases from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. over the weekend, the spike in new cases came at a rapid clip: first with three, then four more, and then six more, and so on as contact tracing efforts were widened and free surveillance testing was done yesterday and last Friday at Kanoa Resort.

CHCC said these new cases were identified through surveillance testing, contact tracing, and passenger arrival testing.

On Oct. 28 a total of 13 individuals were identified as positive cases. CHCC first reported that three individuals were identified as positive cases through surveillance testing performed in collaboration with the CNMI Public School System. Later that day, CHCC also reported that four more were confirmed positive through surveillance testing, and another six were identified through contact tracing.

On Oct. 29, eight were identified. CHCC first reported that three individuals were identified through contact tracing and surveillance testing, and later reported that five more were identified through contact tracing, surveillance testing, and passenger arrival testing.

For all these cases, CHCC said the individuals have all been quarantined, and are being actively monitored. Also in all announcements made over the weekend, CHCC assured that its Communicable Disease Investigation/Inspection team has already initiated contact tracing for those in closest contact with the individuals, and that "this effort will continue until all probable cases are identified and tested".

CHCC and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force is again holding today free surveillance testing at Kanoa Resort from 12:30pm to 3:30pm. CHCC and the task force said that walk-ins are not accepted, and ask those interested in getting tested to register at https://covidtesting.chcc.health.

COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots are available at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, Monday to Saturday, from 8am to 4pm. Those interested in receiving their shots can register at https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/. Free rides are available to and from your appointment, said CHCC.

SCHOOLS

From Page 1

highly transmissible COVID-19 delta variant and so they have made it known that everyone must do their share to stop the transmission.

He said the CNMI COVID-19 Task Force was holding contract tracing the whole day Thursday and all throughout Friday until midnight.

"We do care about our kids and safety of the community. We want to continue to advocate for vaccination and families [being] vaccinated together," he said.

Two of the first three community transmission cases were identified during routine testing at the Saipan Oceanview Middle School and Francisco M. Sablan Middle School. As a result Torres directed all schools and colleges in the CNMI to close down for the next 10 days, or until Nov. 7, 2021,

Torres said it is critical to shut down not just the Public School System, but also all private schools, as well as the Northern Marianas College, the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, and daycare centers.

He said those who want more information can call the governor's office as well as the task force for updated information.

"It is unfortunate that we have this but, again, we know that it's not going to be here for a while and we've been trying to contain it," the governor said.

He said although they have done a great job containing COVID-19 at the borders, the task force and the contract tracing team continue to get to the bottom of this.

As of Saturday, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. reported that five additional individuals have been confirmed positive for COVID-19, and that this brings the CNMI total to 312 cases since March 28, 2020.

FLIGHTS

From Page 1

kopo, Air Busan and Air Seoul have expressed a similar intent to start flying in the next few weeks.

"New airlines have communicated their intent to provide air carrier services to the CNMI, such as Air Busan, Air Seoul, and Jin Air. They have expressed that they would like to fly in the next few weeks," she said.

In a separate statement from Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds, she said that Air Seoul and Air Busan specifically requested approval to start flying in November.

"Right now, we have Air Seoul and Air Busan requesting to fly in November. There is no issue with accommodating their arrivals at the airport but we are mindful that there are existing COVID-19 Task Force requirements that must be worked out that is still in place to ensure the health and safety of our community and that there are sufficient accommodations for our guests to ensure that their visit is enjoyable and memorable," she said.

In a previous interview with Iakopo, she said the two airlines were initially looking at launching their first flights to the CNMI as early as October but it seems those plans have been pushed back.

Iakopo said the two airlines initially sent feelers via letters back in September as a result of the success of the TRIP program.

"With the CNMI's TRIP program growing in numbers by the day, two other South Korea-based airlines have started showing an interest in servicing a South Korea–Saipan route. Air Busan and Air Seoul, have reached out to MVA to participate in the Saipan-South Korea Travel Bubble program. We received an official letter from Air Busan and Air Seoul in their interest in wanting to fly here," she said.

The managing director said this interest in the CNMI is thanks to the fact that the CNMI is the safest travel destination amid this ongoing pandemic. "It very well shows that not only are we a safe destination, but also that the CNMI is a great interest in South Korea," she said.

In addition, Iakopo said that many of the MVA's existing partners such as T'way Airlines, Asiana Airlines, and Jeju Air have expressed interest in adding additional flights to accommodate the growing number of TRIP participants.

CASINO

From Page 3

Rep. Celina Babauta (D-Saipan) said this provision simply protects government agencies in carrying out their priorities to improve their departments and their services to the public.

Babauta said the argument to support this override is that Torres continually renews the reprogramming authority of the Finance secretary.

"This administrative provision protects the departments from that," she said.

Attao said he does understand the intent of the override and that he respects that. "But one of the things that we need to understand first is are we trying to co-mingle the general fund with the ARPA funds? I understand that the ARPA spending plan was utilized in coming up with a budget that will be proposed to the body for adoption and we did that," Attao said.

NMTI board eyes changes to school's mission statement, logo, letterhead

By JOSHUA SANTOS
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Technical Institute's board of trustees are looking at revising the trade school's mission statement, the school's logo, and even its letterhead.

NMTI chief executive officer Jodina Attao took the lead on the subject during last Thursday's board meeting at NMTI's Lower Base facility, where she described NMTI's current mission statement as "quite wordy." She said the proposed mission statement better explains the school's "goals, purpose, and values."

Attao added that the proposed mission statement was prepared by NMTI's administrative staff, and that a vision statement is being worked on and being prepared by NMTI's instructors and other members of NMTI's administrative staff.

The proposed new mission statement for NMTI states: "The Northern Marianas Technical Institute invests in students by providing advanced trades, career, and technical education to produce skilled individuals and strengthen the CNMI workforce."

NMTI board member Catherine Attao has already expressed support for the proposal. "I like [that it's] short and sweet. Any mission and vision statement need to be short and sweet. ...If you want it to be integrated into the culture, [your mission and vision statements] need to be something that anyone can read," she said.

NMTI board chair Mario Valentino agreed with Jodina Attao and Catherine Attao, likening the proposed mission statement to "planting a flag in the ground." "You capture [NMTI's purpose] with just 'technical education' and for me that says it all. This is a technical education institute, and everything else is what we do, the full mission is there," said Valentino.

Jodina Attao also presented to the board several possible new logos and letterheads for the school, which involved different versions of logos featuring "NMTI" or "NMTech" and symbols representing the courses available at NMTI. Board members expressed the importance of having one logo for consistency and said that "NMTech" may help alleviate confusion, as the Northern Marianas Trades Institute, which also goes by NMTI, is still operational.

Further discussions on the proposed mission statement and new logos will be part of the board's next meeting, said Valentino.

Attending Tghursday's meeting in person were Valentino, Jodina Attao, Catherine Attao, and board member Carmelita Faisao. Attending virtually were board members Ana Mendiola and Irene Holl.

DPS: Men tried to sell stolen items back to original owner

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two men are now facing theft charges in Superior Court after they allegedly tried to resell the items they stole to the company where they stole the items in the first place.

Dino Ayuyu Mettao and his co-defendant, Shaun Duenas Reyes, were charged with theft after police arrested them for allegedly trying to sell the excavator batteries that they had allegedly stolen back to the original owner of the batteries.

Last Tuesday, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio approved Mettao's bail modification request and released him to his mother.

Mettao was released on an unsecured bond because his mother said she could not post the $1,000 cash bail imposed on her son. He is allowed to remain on supervised release as long as he complies with court orders and remains under his mother's supervision at all times.

According to court documents, at around 9:04am on Oct. 21, police received a call regarding a theft incident at Hidden Beach, Talofofo. The items stolen were four heavy equipment batteries for excavators.

When police arrived at United Equipment Rentals at around 9:40pm, they saw Reyes and Mettao who told them that they were there to sell batteries. Reyes and Mettao were then transported to the Criminal Investigation Division office.

Mettao told detectives that he and another person had picked up Reyes at Smile Poker in Chalan Laulau around 8pm on Wednesday, Oct. 20. Mettao said they went to Hidden Beach, Talofofo between 10pm and 11pm where they saw two excavators in the area. Mettao said that Reyes climbed on the two excavators and took the equipment's four batteries and placed them in the car. He said they called some friends and asked them to sell the batteries, but their friends did not respond.

At about 7:30am the following day, Mettao said Reyes picked him up and they went to a car rental company where they sold two batteries. Then they went to United Equipment Rentals to sell the other two batteries.

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WE ARE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

IPI treasury director Mafnas resigns

» HR director Dela Cruz: IPI timely paying payroll

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Frances Mafnas, who is the Treasury director of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, has resigned from the company.

Human Resource director Redie Dela Cruz disclosed this last Thursday at the Commonwealth Casino Commission monthly meeting at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, during which she also said she is happy to announce that IPI has continued to pay its active employees timely.

Together with the tower crane team, which just joined the team, they currently have 49 active employees, Dela Cruz said.

Funding for this purpose is coming from IPI's parent company in Hong Kong and that they are using a local bank for payroll, she said in response to CCC board chair Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero's question.

"So far, we've had no issues," she said.

With respect to furloughed employees, Dela Cruz said they remain furloughed as their new extended expiration date for the furlough is March 21, 2022 unless it's changed otherwise.

As for the inactive employees who are owed benefits payout, there still remains no funding for those payouts so there is no update on that, Dela Cruz said.

She told the board that Mafnas' resignation was originally set to be effective on Oct. 25, 2021, but they came to an agreement to transition her to work with other team members who are currently active. Dela Cruz said Mafnas remains an IPI employee as of last week as the transition had been extended.

"We're looking at possibly extending it further. Finance is a big undertaking so we need more time to transition her matters," she said.

Dela Cruz said they are hoping that they can come to an agreement where Mafnas would remain an IPI employee. "But we're still negotiating with her and transitioning," she said.

The HR director said Mafnas' effective date for separation was last Oct. 25, but they came to an agreement to extend it to last Friday, and then they're coming to an agreement to extend it further for maybe another week or two.

Mafnas told the board yesterday that what they are negotiating is to complete IPI's 2021 audit.

She thanked the CCC board and staff for their support during her employment, especially when she took over IPI's finance or before she became the treasury director.

Mafnas said the shutdown of casino operations not only hurt IPI but the entire CNMI. She said they are just depending on their parent company in Hong Kong, and she acknowledged that trying to get funding from it is "really tough."

She said it's a challenge dealing with the vendors here coming to the office, and with all these court judgments that's coming out that need to be paid.

On dealing with the CCC monthly, Mafnas said she loves seeing everyone in the commission "but sometimes I have no updates to share with you all and that's what sometimes holds me back and those are my challenges but I really do appreciate [the] support [you've] given to us," Mafnas said.

In a later interview, she said she resigned as she just wants to relax.

Mafnas is a retired government employee. She has been with IPI for six years.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22 – 021
Opening Date: November 1, 2021
Closing Date: November 16, 2021

POSITION TITLE:	**Trades Technician**
DEPARTMENT:	**Rota Water Division**
LOCATION:	**Rota, Northern Marianas Islands, USA**
ANNUAL SALARY:	**$20,826.00 - $28,115.00 per annum, Non-Exempt**
CONTRACT:	**Not Contracted**
POSITION(S):	**One (1)**

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Drinking Water & Wastewater Division Manager or his/her designee.

Duties:
- Performs maintenance, operations, installations and/or repairs in assigned area of responsibility.
- Provides technical guidance regarding assigned functions; and ensures quality service levels in accordance with proper procedures.
- Provides assistance in monitoring regulatory compliance.
- Operates specialized and heavy equipment; performs maintenance activities and skilled repairs to equipment, infrastructure and/or other items of assigned area of responsibility.
- Identifies issues and operational concerns; performs inspections; provides troubleshooting; evaluates corrective measures or options; recommends and implements solutions and corrective actions.
- Receives customer inquiries and trouble calls; responds to requests and provides information or status updates.
- Monitors inventory and supplies; maintains required supply levels; initiates requests for the replenishment of materials and supplies; cleans, organizes and maintains work and supply areas.
- akes readings of equipment; maintains records, logs, orders and data; and prepares reports.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma/GED or ABE Program AS and four (4) years of experience related to area of assignment. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances (based on assignment); Customer service principles; Basic Mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology. Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards (based on assignment); Performing skilled maintenance, operations and repair work in assigned area; Reviewing of quality levels and providing technical guidance in assigned area; Operating specialized and heavy equipment; Monitoring equipment and making adjustments; Performing inspections and identifying issues; Troubleshooting issues and recommending or implementing solutions; Receiving requests and trouble calls and providing assistance; Monitoring inventory and supplies; Initiating supply requests; Taking equipment readings and maintaining reading data; Preparing and updating activity logs and status reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing/Certification:
o Valid U.S. Driver's License with appropriate class;
o Trades Licenses and/or Certifications, based on assignment;
o Water/Wastewater Treatment and Distribution Certifications, based on assignment

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

(RE-ANNOUNCEMENT)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22 – 022
Opening Date: November 1, 2021
Closing Date: November 16, 2021

POSITION TITLE:	**Dispatch Operator**
DEPARTMENT:	**COA/Customer Service/Call Center**
LOCATION:	**Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA**
ANNUAL SALARY:	**$16,742.00 per annum, Non-Exempt**
CONTRACT:	**Not Contracted**
POSITION(S):	**Three (3)**

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Chief of Administration or his/her designee.

Duties:
- Monitors radio communications in order to dispatch crews for troubleshooting and for related service calls.
- Receives incoming calls reporting complaints or issues related to water, sewer or power utilities; provides general customer service; and routes service calls to appropriate resource.
- Organizes and maintains file systems and pertinent records.
- Performs data entry; maintains and updates logs and dispatch related documentation.
- Prepares and maintains requisitions.
- Follows up with customers to provide basic information, status updates, and to verify customer's experience and any remaining service needs.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Successful candidates for the position must have the following:

Education: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS and up to 1 year of customer service experience.

Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic recordkeeping principles; Radio communications equipment procedures; Modern office technology.

Skills in: Providing customer service; Monitoring and utilizing radio communications and equipment; receiving and routing service or problem calls; entering, updating and maintaining data; organizing and maintaining filing systems and records; preparing and updating logs, records and related documentation; performing follow up calls to ensure adequate service provision; utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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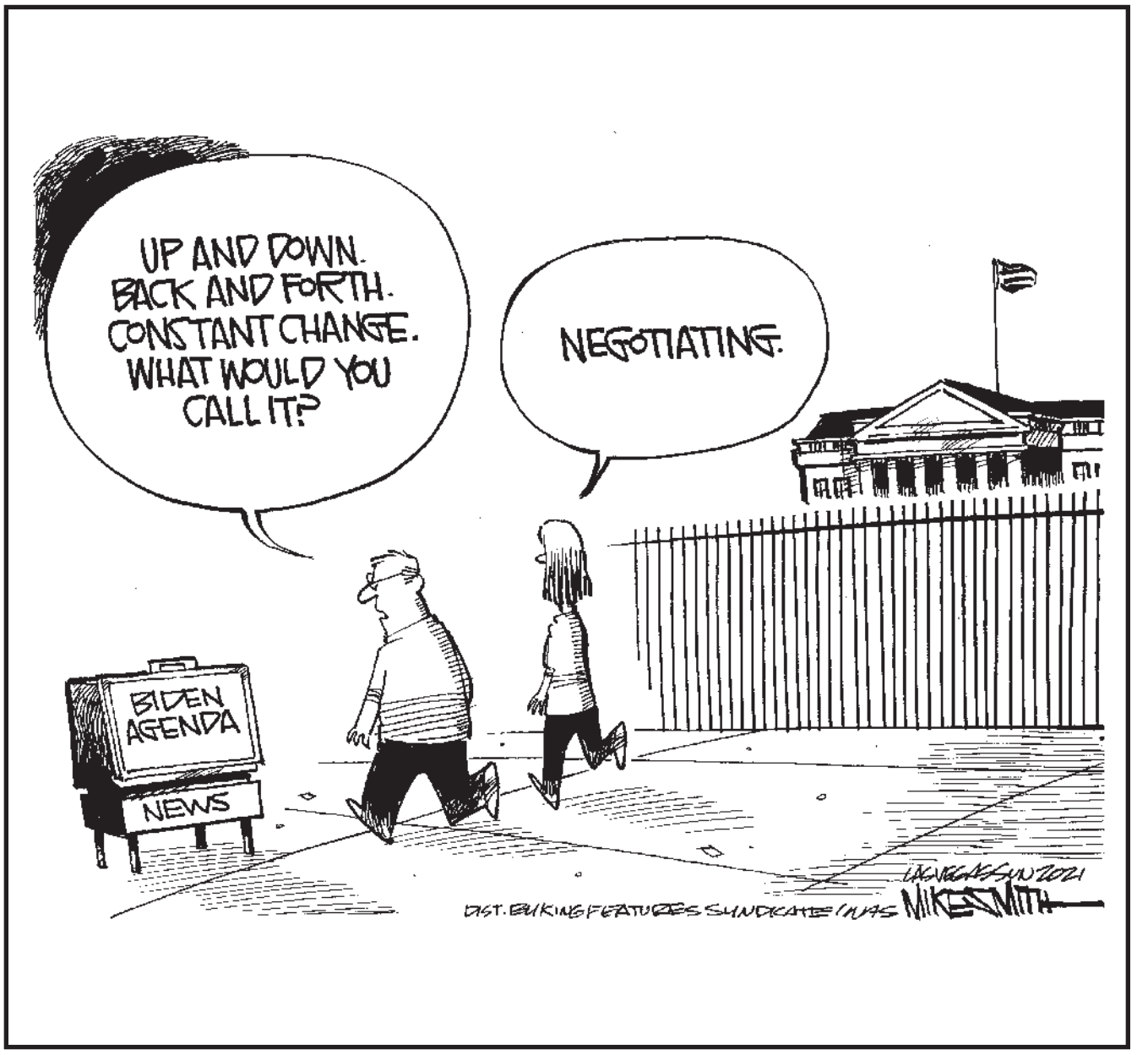
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We need a new Man-on-the-Moon Moment

By MARTIN SCHRAM
Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.

As global leaders gather in Glasgow, desperately seeking to save our over-heating planet from this cataclysmic cycle of worst-ever storms and droughts, floods and famines, wildfires and weather-hells, the leader whose voice will likely dominate their 26th United Nations climate change conference will probably be the one who told the world he isn't coming.

China's Xi Jinping has been busy at finding other ways of making news.

This summer and fall, China's president has been militarily and diplomatically ratcheting up tensions in Taiwan, sending fighter jets and bombers into Taiwan's airspace and reminding its offshore island of democracy that the world considers them to be part of China.

And this week, on the eve of the U.N. summit, a clearly calculated new leak stunned the Pentagon's experts half a world away. This summer, China tested a new generation of weaponry—a "hypersonic missile" that is intended to completely evade the United States' nuclear missile defense systems. China's new missile was capable of being launched into orbit around the Earth, far above the detection of America's vaunted missile defense radar. Then, undetected, it can apparently be fired down upon a U.S. target. Perhaps carrying a Chinese nuclear bomb.

America's top general left no doubt how perilous—and historically challenging—China's hypersonic missile test was. Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, called it "very close" to being "a Sputnik Moment."

The four-star Army general made that candid observation in a unique interview format, Bloomberg Television's "The David Rubenstein Show," which bills itself as featuring "Peer-to-Peer Conversations" that the billionaire philanthropist and investor has with prominent newsmakers. He was referring, of course, to how Russia stunned America and the world in 1957 by launching the world's first satellite—signaling the Cold War world that Russia was winning the space race. That was what prompted President John F. Kennedy to publicly proclaim, after taking office in 1961, that America would land a man on the moon by the end of the decade.

Of course, China's president eagerly looks forward to the day when the world concludes that China deserves to be recognized as No. 1 in the world. And of course, he doesn't mean the way all those leaders going to Glasgow already recognize that: China is by far the world's No. 1 producer of greenhouse gas emissions that caused the warming of our planet that has produced today's climate change crisis.

"In the past ten years, China has emitted more greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, per year than any other country in the world," a Council on Foreign Relations report noted last May. "It surpassed the United States as the top emitter in 2005, according to Climate Watch."

See MOMENT on Next Page

More militarization across the region

RICK'S COLUMN
By RICK PEREZ
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rick Perez used to serve in the U.S. military and has work experiences in public policy research and public affairs. He is passionate about national security and geopolitics and runs a newsletter called Guam Affairs at guamaffairs.substack.com. For questions or comments, contact Perez at rickp7839@gmail.com.

The United States continues to research, develop, test, design, purchase, receive, and operationalize as many weapons systems and platforms that can have real and devastating impacts if used in war against China, Russia, or North Korea. At the same time, China continues to do the same, growing its space, information, naval and land-based forces to prevent the U.S. from fully accessing its near seas region in a hotly contested environment.

Preparation and practice for war has and continues to have wide-ranging consequences. Japan, Australia, Singapore, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, and Taiwan benefit at many levels from receiving military support from the United States. Guam, the Marianas, and Micronesia have received some benefits from the additional militarization of the region, but it has and continues to come at a tremendous environmental, political and Chamorro human resource corridor cost.

Micronesia is already the central location of the single largest all-purpose American military training area in the entire planet and there are no indicators that this is expected to slow down.

The American military presence in the western Pacific and Asia has brought about general peace and helped to sustain order for most of the past several decades. On the flip side, American military operations and presence have also created the conditions that make the rise of China incompatible with American military interests. Improving the distances that missiles can go, modernizing America's total nuclear arsenal, and building radar systems in Micronesia point to a dangerous future.

The problem is over time, the United States simply cannot be everything to everybody. Should hot war ensue, the people and populations that will receive the brunt of destruction will be located throughout the Asiatic and western Pacific region.

Why it won't bring about lasting peace and trust

The cost to the U.S. with continuing to sponsor the world's largest armed services budget is frankly unsustainable. America now has a massive record of deficit spending, total government issued debt outstanding, and the continual practice of printing money electronically does not guarantee future peace in the western Pacific and Asia.

Military arms races into space, information and unmanned systems, undersea warfare, missile technology, and electronic espionage will not bring lasting trust. Hypersonic weapons testing by the U.S., China, the Koreas, and Japan reflect the lack of geopolitical trust currently seen in our region.

Should a hot war break out, it could cause historic disruptions to worldwide trade and commerce.

China and Russia grow military cooperation in the western Pacific

Russian and Chinese navies are now working together to practice for war in the western Pacific. Both nations are involved in practicing more effective military communications, how to shoot down airplanes, how to detect and destroy submarines and how to neutralize mines placed in the ocean. This is taking place in part because China and Russia view that they have common core interests in the western Pacific. Russia and China also find benefit by working together militarily to offset American influence. The Chinese and Russians are taking out military insurance policies in our region, as are the U.S. and its allies.

Russia and China are working to fully operationalize nuclear-powered unmanned undersea weapons that carry nuclear warheads. Both nations are working on hypersonic speed platform weapons for use in the airspace domain. America is doing similar things, but the main distinguishing factor behind American actions are that U.S. nuclear weapons inventories are already approximately 10 times the size of China's nuclear weapons arse-

See MORE on Next Page

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to G20 heads of state and government

We are writing to you on behalf of the millions around the world struggling to survive the COVID-19 pandemic far from home. Some have been forced to flee wars, conflict, persecution and human rights violations. Others are on the move to escape socioeconomic hardship or the consequences of climate change.

As strangers far from home, many are at risk of exclusion or neglect. Owing to their living situation, many face barriers accessing vaccinations, testing, treatment, care, and even reliable information.

It is a stark reality that some of the world's poorest countries shoulder the greatest responsibility for supporting displaced people and other people on the move. They need a reliable and adequate supply of vaccines and other critical supplies to stabilize their fragile and over-burdened health systems, to help save the lives of their citizens, migrants, as well as refugees and other displaced people they host.

Yet the current vaccine equity gap between wealthier and low resource countries demonstrates a disregard for the lives of the world's poorest and most vulnerable. For every 100 people in high-income countries, 133 doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered, while in low-income countries, only four doses per 100 people have been administered.

Vaccine inequity is costing lives every day, and continues to place everyone at risk. History and science make it clear: coordinated action with equitable access to public health resources is the only way to face down a global public health scourge like COVID-19. We need a strong, collective push to save lives, reduce suffering and ensure a sustainable global recovery.

And while vaccines are a very powerful tool, they're not the only tool. Tests are needed to know where the virus is, treatments including dexamethasone and medical oxygen are needed to save lives, and tailored public health measures are needed to prevent transmission.

As the leaders of the world's largest economies, you have the power and responsibility to help stem the pandemic by expanding access to vaccines and other tools for the people and places where these are in shortest supply.

We welcome the fact that this weekend's summit in Rome will call for "courage and ambition" to tackle some of the greatest challenges of our time, and specifically the need to recover from the pandemic and overcome inequality. We collectively call on you, G20 leaders, to commit to:

1. **Increase vaccine supplies for the world's poorest:** We call on the world's leading economies to fully fund and implement the Strategic Plan and Budget for the ACT Accelerator, and to distribute vaccines, tests and treatments where they are needed most. If we are to recover from the pandemic, we must—at a minimum—meet the targets to vaccinate 40% of the world's population by year-end— and 70% globally by mid-2022.

2. **Ensure access to vaccines for all people on the move:** We call on every country to ensure that everyone on its territory regardless of legal status—including refugees, migrants, internally displaced people, asylum-seekers, and others on the move—have access to COVID-19 vaccines, tests and treatment for COVID-19. They should adopt concrete measures to remove barriers to vaccination for everyone on their territory—for example the need for specific documents, geographical barriers, the requirement in some settings that health care seekers are reported to immigration authorities, high fees—and fight misinformation that fuels vaccine hesitancy.

3. **Support low- and middle-income countries to combat COVID-19 with all available means**: Low- and middle-income countries need comprehensive support—financial, political, technical, logistical—to vaccinate people quickly and effectively to expand access to tests and treatments, to implement tailored public health measures, and to build more resilient health systems to prepare for, prevent, detect and respond rapidly to future health emergencies.

We urge you to take swift action to ease the pandemic's devastating human toll.

Filippo Grandi
UN High Commissioner for Refugees

António Vitorino
Director General, International Organization for Migration

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus
Director-General, World Health Organization

Remembering one of our own

Hafa adai, Champions of LGBTQ+ rights and equality here in the CNMI! We are very grateful for all you do for our community.

November is Transgender Awareness Month. Nov. 13-19 is Transgender Awareness Week and Nov. 20 is Transgender Day of Remembrance.

We lift up, amplify and celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of all transgender individuals to our community. Transgender folks have been the backbone and the face of activism for the LGBTQ+ community starting with the Stonewall Riots. This month, the LGBTQ+ community, our friends, family and allies come together in solidarity for the trans community.

In Washington County, Oregon, on the morning of Aug. 29, 2001, a jogger made a gruesome discovery in a field that's off Southwest Farmington Road, not far from Southwest Rood Bridge Road.

Investigators say the body of 28-year-old Loni Kai was left there. The transgender woman's head had been badly beaten. Loni Kai, was one of our own—a resident of Chalan Lau Lau, Saipan, a sister to all of us. For a video of this case, click here: https://www.kptv.com/cold-case-transgender-womans-killing-is-one-of-few-unsolved-hate-crimes-in-washington-county/video_da614419-853e-5065-b300-0ecadfe91299.html.

This Transgender Day of Remembrance on Nov. 20, 2021, we not only remember the multitude of transgender individuals who have been brutally murdered but we also remember one of our own, oni Kai Okaruru.

Tyra Lyn Sablan
Founder, T-Project

MOMENT

From Page 8

China produces more than a quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and coal provides two-thirds of China's energy consumption, the report said. And China's large international aid program is planning to build "hundreds of coal-fired power plants in countries around the world."

Time out. China's president could find it in his and his country's best interest—and also the entire world's best interest—to check out the rest of what America's Gen. Milley went on to tell his non-journalistic billionaire philanthropist interviewer.

"There's no question that the greatest geo-strategic challenge to the United States is going to be China," Milley said. "We're seeing the rise of a country that's unlike anything we've ever seen before. … We are living in an historical epic—the rise of China." Milley noted that some news reports had called China's hypersonic missile test a "Sputnik Moment." Then he added: "I don't know if it's quite a Sputnik Moment, but it's very close to that. ... It has all of our attention. … They have gone from a peasant-based infantry army that was very, very large in 1979 … to a very capable military that covers all of the domains (land, sea, air) and has global ambitions. What we are in, history-wise, is one of the most significant changes in what I would call the character of war."

What would now greatly benefit President Xi, given his global leadership ambitions—and the entire world, as we struggle to keep our planet a place that remains livable—is to rethink just what it means to be No. 1.

A world leader cannot lead when he is a no-show. An emerging economic and military superpower cannot achieve greatness without freeing his nation from the remnants of its Cold War way.

President Xi, let this be your "Man on the Moon Moment." Lead the world by landing a man in Glasgow—you! Show up in Glasgow. Sign on as a co-leader and for once earn the world's respect. Help lead by example. Let China truly help win our World War to defeat greenhouse gases—and save our planet.

MORE

From Page 8

nals and America is looking to a future that incorporates the use of smaller nuclear warheads in war.

Meanwhile American civilian diplomacy has fallen to the wayside

Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands remain invaluable military and intelligence colonies of the United States. State Department needs and Department of the Interior needs for our island chain pale in comparison to the perceived value of Guam to the Pentagon.

Civilian diplomatic efforts undertaken by Washington continue to take a back seat to military wants and needs in our region. Navy admirals and general officers are the modern-day principal diplomats without the formal training in this field. It is hardly an American diplomatic success to link U.S. Japanese military cooperation on long-range cruise missile enhancements and U.S. South Korean ballistic missile enhancements as tools that bring about lasting trust and peace.

It simply isn't so.

In addition, American moves to convert ship-based anti-air missiles from defensive to offensive weapons, and Chinese beliefs that they will not be able to successfully launch a second nuclear missile strike against U.S. targets, do nothing to generate more trust and greater cooperation that more traditional diplomatic measures can bring about.

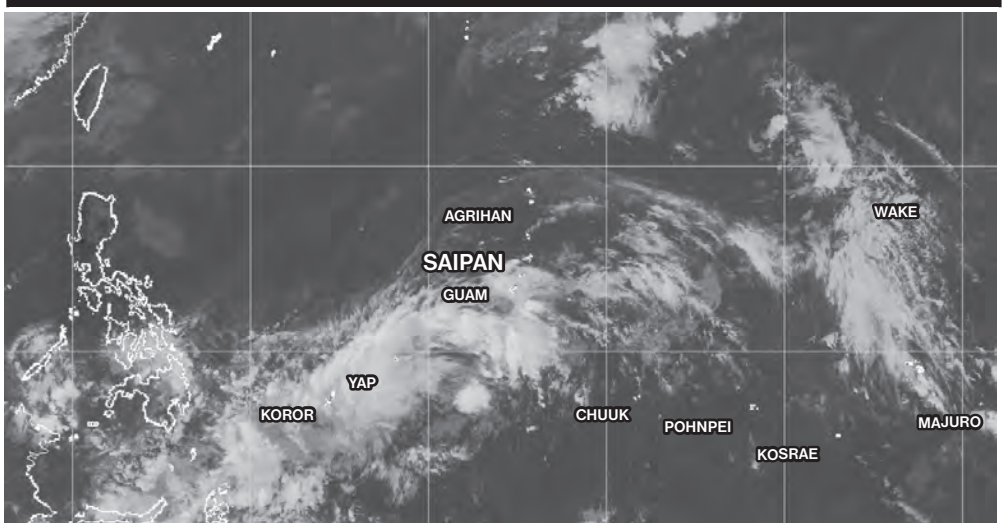
Let's hope that the American, Chinese, North Korean and U.S. allied militaries don't mess this one up.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South to southeast winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
87° 77°	87° 77°	87° 77°	87° 77°	87° 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:11 AM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Skies across the Marianas are mostly cloudy with moderate to fresh east winds and mostly cloudy skies ahead of a surface trough that will move through from east to west today. Showers had diminished overnight, but a fresh outbreak is evident on radar around Guam and Rota, and more showers can be seen on satellite imagery further out east of the islands. With the increase in winds, seas at Ipan buoy have increased to over 5 feet, and satellite-derived seas range from 6 to 8 feet west of the islands.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 77°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 77°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85° / 80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:12 AM	5:47 PM
Tuesday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Wednesday	6:13 AM	5:47 PM
Thursday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Friday	6:14 AM	5:46 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	2:26 AM	3:12 PM	-
Tuesday	3:21 AM	3:53 PM	-
Wednesday	4:17 AM	4:35 PM	-
Thursday	5:15 AM	5:20 PM	-
Friday	6:16 AM	6:08 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	64° / 57°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	63° / 39°
Hong Kong	Sunny	81° / 72°
Honolulu	Thunderstorms	84° / 73°
London	Partly Cloudy	57° / 46°
Los Angeles	Showers	68° / 59°
Manila	Showers	82° / 77°
Melbourne	Cloudy	64° / 54°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	78° / 71°
New York	Sunny	58° / 44°
Osaka	Sunny	66° / 52°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	55° / 37°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	66° / 52°
Rome	Partly Cloudy	70° / 45°
Salem	Sunny	74° / 48°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	59° / 50°
Seoul	Cloudy	64° / 52°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	61° / 48°
Washington, DC	Sunny	61° / 43°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:59 AM	High Tide	1.40
10:32 AM	Low Tide	0.19
5:22 PM	High Tide	1.84
11:39 PM	Low Tide	0.60

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 28, 2021

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:20am	8:05am	2, 4, 6
UA117	9:50am	10:35am	1, 3, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:20am	9:50pm	2, 4, 6 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

7C3406	3:10PM	6:55PM	6
TW9308	3:20PM	8:00PM	4
OZ6243	4:00PM	7:40PM	6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA116	5:30am	6:16am	2, 4, 6
UA174	8:00am	8:46am	1, 3, 5, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	2, 5
UA184	10:55pm	4:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	10:40pm	6:16am+1	5 via Guam
UA184/174	10:40pm	8:46am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	6:16am+1	1, 3 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:46am+1	4, 6, 7 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3405	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
OZ6233	9:00AM	2:30PM	6
TW9307	10:00AM	2:20PM	4

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Katori City in Japan and Saipan ink sister-city relationship

Katori City Mayor Seiichi Ui, on TV screen, and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang, seated second from right, hold up the signed sister-city agreement between the Saipan and Katori City municipalities last Friday at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room. Also in picture are Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo, Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas chair Hideaki Sawada, Pacific Development Inc. managing director Gordon I. Marciano, and representatives from the Japan Saipan Travel Association and the Japan-Northern Marianas Descent Association. JOSHUA SANTOS

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan and Katori City in Japan have made official a sister-city agreement between the two jurisdictions.

In a signing ceremony last Friday at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room, Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang signed the agreement here on Saipan while his Katori City counterpart, Mayor Seiichi Ui, signed the agreement in Japan synchronously, going through event proceedings over video conference.

The agreement draws on more than a hundred years of shared history between Saipan and Katori City in the Chiba Prefecture of Japan through the Katori Shrine, the head of all Katori Shrines throughout Japan, and the Saipan Katori Shrine, its branch shrine.

"Utilizing this connection, we wish to furthermore promote the friendly relations that we have been fostering thus far, to deepen mutual understanding and cooperation through the exchange of education, culture, industry, sports, and so forth. Thus, by this sister city agreement, the Municipality of Saipan and the City of Katori hereby agree to establish a sister city relationship," the agreement states.

Apatang later said the main purpose of the agreement is to ensure a "perpetual connection" between the two municipalities, and he pledged that Saipan will participate in and develop cultural exchange programs with Katori City.

"The objective of the sister city agreement will be to ensure a perpetual connection between Katori City and Saipan and the preservation and teaching of the vital history of that connection. Because the preservation and teaching of that vital history is everybody's business, just like tourism, we will develop programs that should include cultural exchange programs for the youth and adults," said Apatang. "We will also endeavor to include exchanges in agriculture, commerce, and tourism in our relationship with Katori City, as the city is a premier agricultural hub in the Chiba Prefecture in Japan. The word Katori has a special place here [on] Saipan. It is the Katori Shrine in the Sugar King Park," he added.

The signing ceremony was attended by guests both in Japan and on Saipan. One such guest on Saipan was Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo, who said the cultural and historic ties between the CNMI and Japan can be found in tourist sites around Saipan and ingrained in the CNMI's culture.

"Today's agreement is a welcome occasion. The historic ties between Japan and Saipan are still evident at many sites around the island, including the Katori Shrine at the Sugar King Park in our main tourist district," said Iakopo. "The ties between us can still be seen in the daily lives of our people, whether it be making sushi for family [occasions]... [or] our shared cultural values of respect for others, honoring our elders, and cooperation. ...Today's agreement is a symbol of those historic and cultural ties, and mutual goodwill and friendship between our people."

Besides Iakopo, other guests at Friday's signing included Hideaki Sawada, who is chairman of the Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas; Pacific Development Inc. managing director Gordon I. Marciano, and representatives from the Japan Saipan Travel Association and the Japan-Northern Marianas Descent Association.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB22-CHCC/MICAH-HOME-005
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 16, 2021 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

"LEASE OF VEHICLES"

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP22-CHCC/CGC-AS-006
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 16, 2021 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

CTSI Logistics is inviting qualified US workers

Position: Automotive Mechanic

Vocational or High School Graduate. Must be able to diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul trucks, diesel engine i.e. cummins, mercedez and kenworth or maintain and repair any type of engine. Minimum of two (2) years work experience is required in these areas. Use of machine tools, welding and flame cutting, engine elements, gears, brakes, transmission, exhausts, etc. Proficiency in critical devices for fuel tank trucks is a must.

A pre-employment drug testing will be required, Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants may apply with CTSI Building, Sta Remedios, Lower Base, during regular business hours from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
MVA-RFP-22-2046
For: Marianas Visitors Authority
TOURISM RESUMPTION INVESTMENT PLAN (TRIP
TRIP-HYBRID QUARANTINE FACILITY

Submission /Closing Date: November 15, 2021 Time: 10:00AM (ChST)
Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
Attn: Procurement Office
San Jose Professional Building
Beach Rd., San Jose
P.O. Box 500861, Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the Scope of Work on or after **November 01, 2021** at the **Marianas Visitors Authority Office, San Jose Professional Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan**, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

/s/ Ellsbeth Viola Alepuyo
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors
/s/ Priscilla M. Iakopo
Managing Director, MVA

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP22-CHCC/CGC-CCP-004
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 5, 2021 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

"OFFICE LEASE - ROTA"

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
DISASTER RECOVERY (CDBG-DR) DIVISION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: cnmi-cdbg-dr@nmhcgov.net | Website: http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com
Tels: (670) 233-9447, 233-9448, 233-9449, 233-9450 | Fax: (670) 233-9452

PUBLIC NOTICE

"NMHC will suspend application intake for its CDBG-DR New Construction/Homebuyer Programs"

Due to a huge volume of Pre-Qualification applications and URLA Loan Application packets received to date and funding committed to approved loan applicants as well as the urgency to speed up processing of loan applications for applicants determined eligible for financial assistance, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is notifying the general public that it will **SUSPEND** accepting new applications for its CDBG-DR New Construction/Homebuyer programs effective November 12, 2021.

The two (2) NMHC CDBG-DR Housing Programs affected by this suspension include:

1. New Construction for Homeownership Opportunity and First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program; and
2. Homebuyer Program.

Depending on the number of loan applications approved and subject to funding availability, NMHC may resume application intake.

Thank you and for more information, please contact NMHC CDBG-DR Division at Tel. Nos. 233-9447/9448/9449/9450 or via email cnmi-cdbg-dr@nmhcgov.net

"NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency"

Magofna completes Judiciary's freshman legislator seminar

Rep. Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan), third from right, poses for a photo with CNMI Judiciary justices, judges, and other officials after completing the Law and the Freshman Legislator seminar last Friday at the Guma Hustisia.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Judiciary conducted at the Guma Hustisia on Friday the Law and the Freshman Legislator seminar for Rep. Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan), who took office through the special election held on Oct. 16, 2021.

The seminar, held biennially since 2004 for incoming legislators, provides an overview of the judicial process and gives the legislators a rare opportunity to interact in one setting with federal and CNMI judges and justices. Most of the sitting senators and representatives also completed the same program.

The seminar began with a presentation by Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona of the U.S. District Court for the NMI on the topic of statutory interpretation. CNMI Judiciary deputy general counsel Matthew Brown presented on the Covenant and the U.S. and CNMI constitutions. Commonwealth Law Revision Commission executive director Dean Palacios gave a presentation on basic legal research.

The seminar concluded with a roundtable discussion on the role of the courts where the justices and judges answered questions from Magofna.

Magofna was elected to replace the seat left vacant by the sudden passing of then-representative Ivan Blanco (R-Saipan). ***(PR/Saipan Tribune)***

CAMPUS BULLETIN

CHamoru commission meeting set

The Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' i Taotao Tåno' (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its monthly meeting on Nov. 4, 2021, Thursday, from 12:30pm to 3:30pm on a virtual link meeting: hV09GQhttps://us02web.zoom.us/j/83383874666?pwd=dXRaVnJYblRmQytuY2tzSkVT09. Contact Flo Landry at (671) 475-0139 for special accommodations, link and agenda. ***(PR)***

4.6-magnitude quake in Marianas region

At 10:11pm on Oct. 29, 2021, a 4.6-magnitude earthquake occurred at 21.078°N 145.323°E in the Mariana Islands region. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at (670) 237-8000. ***(PR)***

MCS HONOR STUDENTS

Mount Carmel School congratulates these students for making it to the 1st Quarter President's List and Honor Roll.

PRESIDENT'S LIST

Students must have a GPA of 4.00 or above and must attain character marks of VG or above.

1ST GRADE
Arielle Aniciete
Aubrey Matsunaga
Brayden Kane Taguchi
Farrell Dela Santa
Ines Maratita
Jesse Joseph Gregory Palacios
Mika Backe
Mya Joy Manibusan
Shinely Vincent
Sophia Reese Arriola
Sumai Francine Castro
Vincent Salavaria

2ND GRADE
Aiden Ray Cepeda
Carina Guerrero
Ezekiel Ma'Nu'I Villagomez
Gabriella Jo Tenorio
Jake Hiram Maratita
Kaiya Pangelinan
Khoen Alexander Coldeen Torres
Prescott Jonathan Cabrera
Stella Choi

3RD GRADE
Aiyana Pangelinan
Aliyani Basa
Anah Bellah Guerrero
Chloe Jane Militante
Clarise Garamonte
Erika Cuyugan
Friella Huanne Dela Santa
Jake Peter Deleon Guerrero Jr.
John Damien Sablan
Kendra Camacho
Kirk Ivan De Perio
Logan Propst
Madden Anthony Deleon Guerrero
Oliveeah Julee Kaipat
Scarlett Shae Salas
Sera Guerrero
Vinae Jaydene Pua
Vince Angelo Estella

4TH GRADE
Advika Vallabhaneni
Amber Faith Militante
Ava Carmina Sablan
Avah Mae Delacruz
Chloe Anne Marie Matsunaga
Ezaela Patrice Camacho
Jeongwoo Choi
Ji Woo Lee
Karl Angelo Diaz
Kathleen Cano
Kennani Vinae Villagomez
Ki Eun Lee
Miana Dolores Delacruz
Paige Kanae Cabrera
Victoria Eve Terlaje
Von Derick Lauron

5TH GRADE
Angelo Li
Bentley James Albuen
David Joseph Camacho
Gonshiro Pedro Jose Sasamoto
Jaden Shyne Fujihira
James Matsumoto
Jaze Enzo San Nicolas
Joey Claude Mostales
Kainoa Tenorio
Leighton Tomokane-Tenorio
Logan Matsumoto
Maria Guerrero
Mia Guerrero
O-Ren Fumiyo Sasamoto
Ryusei Asai
Seungjae Ha
Sim Zhukovskaia
Trisha Juliana Abuan
Xin Lei (Steven) Song
Zian Michael Obnimaga

6TH GRADE
Alexia Rubia
Audrey Bansil
Cecilia Ramon Villagomez
Ciana Lei Demapan
Do Geon Kim
Dylan Jacob Camacho
Jadine Nicole Pangelinan
Janessa Francine Arriola
Jener Franz Pineda
Jessi Chen
John Ellama
Katherine Hwang
Kayla Larson
Layla Carmen Ann Palacios
Remiegem Melchor
Siwoo Lee

7TH GRADE
Christopher James Dela Cruz
Enzo Umeki Sasamoto
Henry Yeom
Hope McQuay
Jeffrey Concepcion
Jose Clarence Tenorio
Josephine Lopez
Jupri Torres
Justin Mallari
Kaden Christian Propst
Naomi Skye Matsumoto
Rafael Elijah De Belen
Sage Ramon Villagomez
Seungwoo Choi

8TH GRADE
Asa Backe
Camron Zavier Pangelinan
Chae Eun Kim
Emmanuel Pontiveros
Jasmine Meleana Deleon Guerrero
Jessiana Tenorio
Kayli Ari Salas
Leonard Jake Regalado
Mya Pangelinan
Oscar Bien Buenaflor
Patricia Denielle Lugtu
Quince Emanuele Tizon
Seunghee Jeon
Valerie Anne Estella
Victor Nash Santos
William Matthew Cano

9TH GRADE
Ari James Toskas
Audrein Jennifer Mallari
Chealzka Navarro
Chloe Alexis Camacho
Hitomi Rosa Sasamoto
Irie Kane Camacho
Jaeyun Jung
Jay Francis Dominic Pineda
Jee Woo Son
Laizza Vianca Mallari
Lyssa Rae Steele
Maili Peter
Malina Rose Tenorio
Nicole Erin Mariano
Princes Amanda Habal
Rafael Mykel Gozon
Seungun Ha
Vayden Matagolai
Yunseong Seol

10TH GRADE
Brandon Lee
Earle Gabreil San Nicolas
Eunkyu (Joey) Hong
Jeery Chen
Jonathan Sheu
Ruben Guerrero
Sanghyeok Lee
Tyana Kisha Tesiro
Xin Wen Jin

11TH GRADE
Brent Ortizo
Clint Allen Irang
Derek Moritaro Sasamoto
Dohyun Lim
Donnie James Jr. Militante
Erin Frink
Francine Monique Albuen
Gerald Jr. Deleon Guerrero
Jose Mafnas
Kyla Monique Cabrera
Leopoldo Naraja
Manuel Jacinto Pangelinan
Mathew Adrian Sablan
Seungchan Oh
William Xue
Yurihana Rosa Sasamoto

12TH GRADE
Aleia Santos
Christian Guerrero
Fiona Marielle Bucalig
Ha'ani Seman
Hannah Lacap
Hyunjun Kim
Hyunkyu Park
Jefferey Sheu
Jeremiah Jerome Diaz
Jihwan Ryu
JunBeom Kim
Kaia Travilla
Kiana Lei Propst
Kwon Joon Ha
Larry Dean Cruz
Monique Laura Duenas
Raesyl Gerard Solis
Regina Huerto
Richard Jesus Villagomez
Robin Kyle Alvarez
Theresa Rose Schweiger
Vaughn Andrei Mallari
Victoria Ancheta
Vidal Jose Sablan
William Nathaniel Ano
Yu Jeong Son

HONOR ROLL

Students must have a GPA of 3.66 or above and must not have any behavior grade of U or NI.

1ST GRADE
Benz Elliott Santos
Brian Anthony Reyes
Gabriella Salome Gamab
Jayven Xander Sablan
Ji Yoo Lee
Leilani Soledad Castro
Lloyd Manuel Sencio
Miriam Flores
Rockson Cabrera

2ND GRADE
Aiesha Sadie Camacho
Aleaya Bermudes
Aycee Rianne Quitugua
Chloe Nicole Arnold
Crystin Pangelinan
Edward George Flores II
Felix Ryan Tomokane
Gino Marvin Deleon Guerrero
Jace Pangelinan
Jamara Jayde Cabrera-Sablan
Maven Borja
Sinako Annette Leiyangscheng Tagabuel
Vialanni Maleigh Alexis
Yuna Yu

3RD GRADE
Alana Lei Macaranas
Alesa Ilmova
Brayden Luke Repata
Chloe-Mae Taimanao
Ezel Santos
Ian James De Leon
Ivan Fernand Fortades
Jonathan Zhang
Liam Sablan
Neia Dolana Noreyemal Tagabuel
Okamura Jaxon Itisoorschigh Tagabuel
Qoheleth Thomas Blas
Soli Maratita
Yu Ma
Zion James Ulloa

4TH GRADE
Adelle Jane Kautz
Aiyah Elise Igitol
Cali Jade Cabrera
Daniel Kang
Francisco Joseph Cruz
Franko Ray Tudela
Heaven Agnes Deleon Guerrero
Krish Devjani
Lydia Xian
Mikayla Guerrero
Nirvana Wolf
Talina Aguon-Mcclure
Ye Lei (Bruce) Song

5TH GRADE
Aaron Wu
Anna Lee
Bella Deleon Guerrero
Donald Laurence Amwolschigh Tagabuel
Hyun Woo Cho
Leonmar Jaedon Regalado
Liana Margaret Deleon Guerrero
Miguel Garret Mendoza
Nea Zoe Dandan

6TH GRADE
Arthur Deliva
Aubrey Rae Quitugua
Aya Santos
Cassidee Jolina Flores
Cyril Michael Pangilinan
Dylan Niric
Francisco Maratita
Jayson Jared Tagabuel
Ju Hwan Hyun
Julius Sheu
Kimason Cabrera
Mary Shelley Deleon Guerrero
Tanner Larel Mcclure

7TH GRADE
Akoni Jesus Matsumoto
Carly Dela Cruz
Christine Rosanne Castro
Hiromi Rosa Sasamoto
Iris Maleia Rasa
Juliana Magan Subang
Kaitlyn Alexza Drilon
Ki Won Lee
Maya McQuay
Nicole Angela Pangilinan
Patricia Matsumoto
Patrick Guerrero
Pedro Jose Tomokane
Sarah Angela Melchor
Serenity Anne Fujihira
Stephanie Joyce Sevilla
Stephen Yeom
Taher Shakir
Wayne Dominic Ano
Yukiko Kiyomi Sasamoto

8TH GRADE
Ainsley Ancheta
Alexandria Dysangco
Andrick Poon
Annieskha Arreza
Anthony Christian Rivera
Arwen Hannah Bartolata
Ayanna Faith Matsumoto
Elise Maratita
Heleyna Frielle Dela Santa
Jieun Kwon
Joseph Brandon Pangelinan
Kate Nicole Cabalbag
Lance Jericho Javier
Mikaehla Paige Mendoza
Mikayla Castro
Nyla Deleon Guerrero
Riana Joy Travilla
Therese Joy Ogo
Zion Jude Cabrera

9TH GRADE
Alvin Hong
Arturo Rodrigo Travilla
Aryana Carmen Taimanao
Breana Ysabel Patawaran
Chelsy Anne Reyes
Claire Regina Kautz
Dylan Santos
Earl Pete Jacob Lacandazo
Jada Chang
Katie Gah-Eun Yoon
Kimberly Villegas
Manuel Pamintuan
Mia Ysabela Abuan
Quimari Liwerscheng Duenas
Ranier Joy Solis
Sihyeon Choi
Tricia Antonnette Palacios
Yue Xin Du

10TH GRADE
Angel Li
Avah Marie Torres
Breanna Sue Mafnas
Devin Jordan Propst
Elisa Ellen Blanco
Ethan Jude Militante
Gwen Tiffany Gamab
Ierlyma Nicole Deleon Guerrero
Jazmin Jay Tagabuel
Juliana Vergara
Kriselle Bryana Mitzy Drilon
Leo Bang
Leyonne Alfred Tolentino
Maria Yoshie Torres
Marini Millo
Minki Jung
Natalie Gabrielle Ano
Palikkun George
Paul William Camacho
Tian Si Xu
Tiana Torres

11TH GRADE
Aubriana Maria Sablan
Brissa Hunter
Da Hyun Shim
Irene Lee
Jazmyn Phoeme Lopez
Jill Anne Marie Mallari
Kayannie Ilifighar Peter
Kina Dela Cruz
Kristan Rose Torres
Leunyce Regalado
Moeisha Eleanor Cruz
Raeka Shereen Lantin

12TH GRADE
Ariel Morales
Chelsea Olouachel
David Li
Gayle Noreen Vidal
Hyun Namkung
Jedric Nathaniel Villar
Jimin Kwon
Karvin Fernando
Sajj Pandey
Vincent Torres

SCS HONOR ROLL

Congratulation to those who made it to the Saipan Community School's 1st Quarter Honor List for school year 2021-2022:

"PRINCIPAL'S LIST"

4.00 –(No grade below a "A")
Jose Sablan-6th grade
Annabella Tudela-6th grade
David Park-7th grade
Jeong Bin Park-7th grade
Joshua Yoo-7th grade
Lola Guerrero-8th grade
Andy Kim-8th grade
Sheryne Yang-8th grade

"A" HONOR ROLL

3.50 to 3.99 – (No grades below a "B")
Clair Oh-4th grade
Hiyori Okuma-4th grade
Micaela Tenorio-4th grade
Leo Samson Pangelinan-4th grade
Shito Yoshie-5th grade
Vivian Chung-5th grade
Jessica Gao-5th grade
Nicole William-5th grade
Elijah Pangelinan-5th grade
Richard Zhao-6th grade
Ray Patrick McDonald-6th grade
Landon Springer-6th grade
Joan Song-7th grade
David Ye-7th grade
Byul An-7th grade
Hannah Chae-7th grade
Morgan Finco-7th grade
Sharon Zhang-7th grade
Timothy Haynes-8th grade
Joanne Yoon-8th grade
Alfred Baek-8th grade
Tae Seong Kim-8th grade
Drei Camacho-8th grade
Jie Huang -8th grade
Leighton Palacios -8th grade
Raina Park -8th grade
Abbie Kim-8th grade
Elijah Ye-8th grade

"B" HONOR ROLL

3.00 to 3.49 – (No grades below a "C")
Ryan Macaranas-4th grade
Alexander Diaz-4th grade
Wilson Guo-4th grade
Lily Lim-4th grade
Kielon Catching-4th grade
Marie Smith-5th grade
Tony Xiao-5th grade
Farani Tonuu-5th grade
Allie Brasuell-5th grade
Hui An-5th grade
JiHun Park-6th grade
Emma Sablan-6th grade
Daniel Nae-6th grade
Ian Chae-6th grade
Mickaella Yang-6th grade
William Guo-6th grade
Kody Arriola-6th grade
Gabriela Bark-7th grade
Jack Li-7th grade
Hilah Bacani-7th grade

Two former NMC students compete in Oregon

Two former Northern Marianas College students who are now University of Guam Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets were selected to join nine other UOG cadets to travel to Oregon to compete in the 8th Brigade ROTC Ranger Challenge Competition.

The University of Guam ROTC team competed at the 8th Brigade ROTC Ranger Challenge competition along the Oregon coast from October 23-24, 2021.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The intense competition lasted from Oct. 23 to 24 and tested the University of Guam ROTC team's land navigation skills, rifle marksmanship, first aid knowledge, and physical fitness and endurance. The cadets trained together all semester in order to excel at the competition.

Dan Ryan Tumaquip, a senior at the University of Guam and a graduate of Saipan Southern High School, traveled to Oregon, said he appreciated the training because it made him mentally and physically prepared for the challenge.

"Teamwork was a big thing here because everyone has to finish together and the team gets evaluated together," Tumaquip said. "The camaraderie was amazing—at the beginning of our training we were strangers, but once we became a team we really had that great camaraderie."

Tumaquip also graduated from the Northern Marianas College in 2015 with his associate in applied science degree in Criminal Justice.

Jeffrey Seo, a sophomore at the University of Guam and a graduate of Marianas High School, said before he left Oregon to return to Guam that he was "happy to be able to come out here."

Seo described the benefits as being able to understand his limitations, increasing his confidence, and knowing that his "hard work paid off."

"What helped our team was that we had fun when we weren't competing, but we changed our mindset to be aggressive, tactical, patient, and smart whenever we trained or competed," Seo said. "I felt that we became one team and all family."

Seo had previously attended and completed his freshman year at the Northern Marianas College.

Tumaquip and Seo were able to drive the team to a seventh place finish in the Ranger Challenge Competition, as they defeated ROTC teams from the likes of Seattle University, University of Washington, and University of Alaska.

According to Lt. Col. Thomas Anderson, the professor of Military Science at the University of Guam, the Ranger Challenge Competition turned out exactly as he had hoped.

"The cadets bonded as a team and really worked hard to bring out each other's strengths," said Anderson. "Dan Ryan and Jeffrey represented Saipan and the CNMI well and I couldn't be prouder of them."

Retired Army Lt. Col. Clement Bermudes, Criminal Justice Department chair and SROTC liaison at the Northern Marianas College, excitedly reacted that "we are sincerely proud of both Dan Ryan and Jeffrey for their hard work and commitment, and they serve as a great example of the opportunities available to our CNMI students."

The cadets loved the training, but the physical environment made them wish for home, as Tumaquip shivered out that "it's really cold in Oregon—the cold is like a different story, especially with the rain added in." For these sons of the Marianas, there truly is no place like home. ***(NMC)***

Jeffrey Seo, left, and Dan Ryan Tumaquip, both from Saipan, competed at the 8th Brigade ROTC Ranger Challenge competition at Camp Rilea, Oregon on Oct. 23-24, 2021.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Public warned of high surf

A high surf advisory is now in effect until 6pm today, Monday.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center State Warning Point, large breaking waves of 9 to 11 feet and a high risk of rip currents are present along north and west facing reefs of Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan until 6pm today. These will create dangerous swimming and surfing conditions and localized beach erosion. Inexperienced swimmers should remain out of the water due to dangerous surf conditions. ***(PR)***

PDM cleanup collects 1,200 lbs of trash

After joining the International Coastal Cleanup last month, PDM Promoters Inc. resumed its monthly cleanup of the Paseo de Marianas and its surroundings last Oct. 23.

PDM Promoters coordinator Sonia Siwa said they pushed through with their activity despite the rain, with 27 participants—19 members of Saipan Awaodori Team and eight Kinpachi Restaurant staff—eventually gathering 1,200 lbs of garbage.

She said the cleanup involved volunteers literally doing a sweep of Paseo de Marianas, Coral Tree Avenue, American Memorial Park Road, and its connecting alleys from 9am to 12pm.

Unlike last month when they were part of the Division of Coastal Resources Management's islandwide cleanup, volunteers were able to do bush-cutting during the October cleanup as they pruned bushes and trees as well as the usual picking up of trash.

PDM Promoters' monthly cleanups are held every Saturday and are supported by the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality and the non-profit's sponsors, T-Galleria and TSL Foundation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

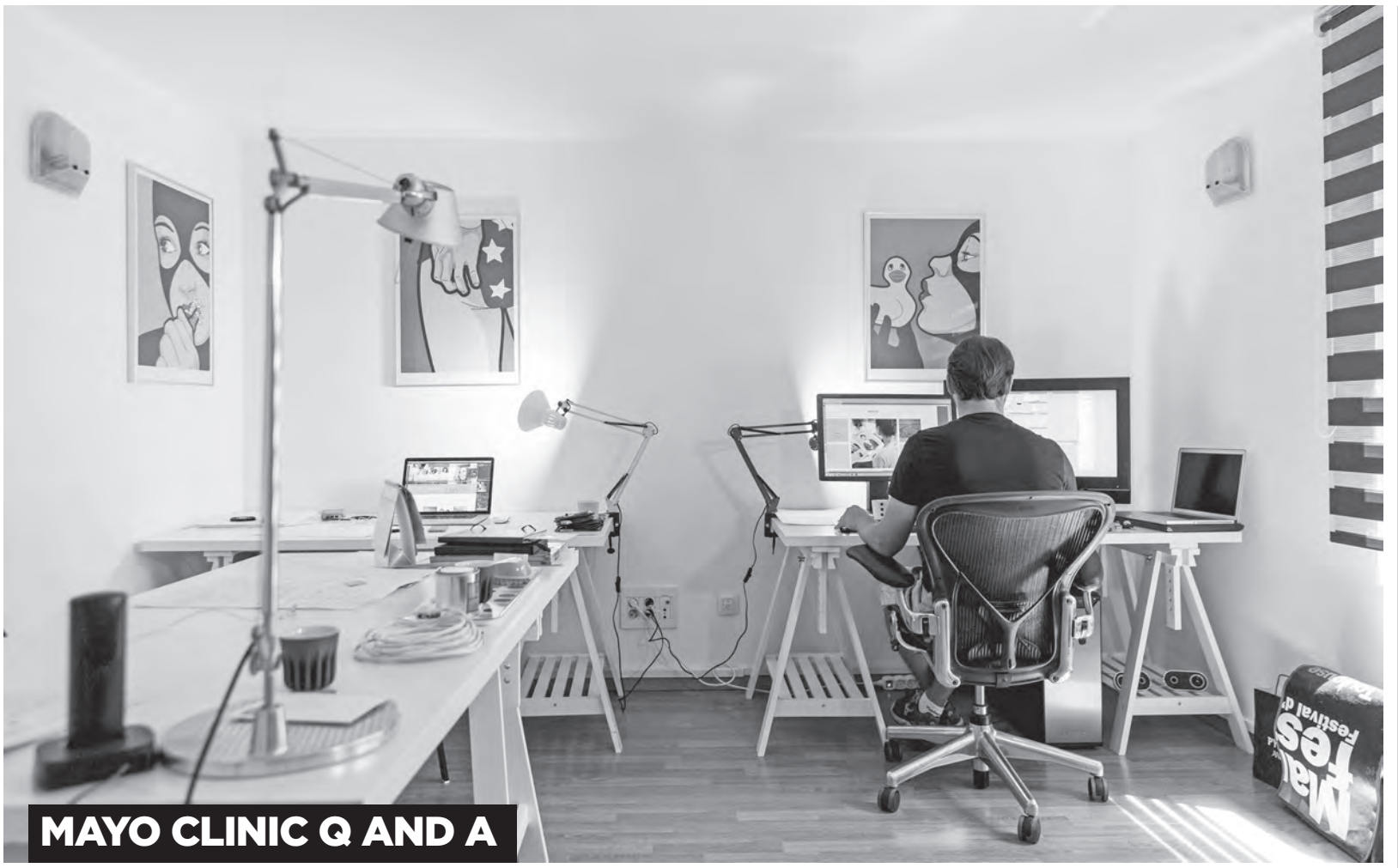
PDM Promoters, Inc.'s 27 volunteers collectec 1,200 lbs of garbage during their monthly cleanup last Oct. 23 at the Paseo de Marianas and its surrounding environs.

Siwa said T-Galleria and TSL Foundation's support enables them to have the cleaning materials needed for their cleanups. Kinpachi Restaurant provides the meal and snacks for volunteers.

Volunteers of PDM Promoters will be at it again in November when it conducts its next monthly cleanup of 2021. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Health & Wellness

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Holdings HEALTH IS WEALTH Tan Siu Lin Foundation



MAYO CLINIC Q AND A

Avoiding pain while working at a desk

By CYNTHIA WEISS
MAYO CLINIC NEWS NETWORK

DEAR MAYO CLINIC: I have been working at home for the past year because of the COVID-19 pandemic. My work requires me to be on a computer much of the day, and over the past few months, I've noticed more frequent headaches, and pain in my lower back and sometimes my neck. Could my workspace be contributing to my pain? If so, how can I fix it?

ANSWER: The number of people working from home has increased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic. With more people working from home came an increased number of people reporting neck pain and back pain.

Sitting and working at a desk — perhaps a makeshift one—is one of the most common causes of this type of pain. Taking time to review and redesign your workspace can alleviate discomfort, whether you work at home or in an office.

First take notice of your computer or workstation. Often I find that people try to accommodate to the technology rather than the other way around. For instance, many people strain to see a computer monitor that is too far away, too low, too high, too small or too dim. This compromises good posture.

The average human head weighs almost 12 pounds—the equivalent of a bowling ball. When your neck is bent to 45 degrees, your head exerts nearly 50 pounds of force on your neck. In addition to straining joints and muscles in your neck and shoulders, the pressure affects your breathing and mood.

To alleviate this stress, redesign your workspace to encourage well-aligned posture. You can improve the ergonomics—the efficiency and comfort level—of a typical workstation in many ways.

Start by answering these questions.

Q. Is your monitor positioned so you can see it well without straining?

Consider these tips:

- Raise or lower the monitor or your chair so your eyes are level with the top of the screen. If you wear bifocals, you may need to lower the monitor another 1 to 2 inches.
- Move the monitor closer or farther away so you can easily read the screen.
- Increase the font size you use.
- If using a laptop, link to a larger monitor.

Q. Are your mouse and keyboard positioned so you don't have to reach up to use them?

Lower your desk height or raise your chair so your forearms are parallel to the floor or pointed slightly downward and your wrists are not pointing either upward or downward.

Q. Do you keep frequently used tools within close range to minimize reaching?

Consider these tips:

- Keep your mouse nearby, and regularly change it from one side of your body to the other.
- Use a headset if you talk on the phone frequently.
- Find shortcut keys you can use while typing.
- Use a document holder so you don't have to look down frequently.

Q. Does your chair allow you to maintain the normal curves in your spine, such as the curve in your low back?

Raise your chair so you're not sitting straight up at a 90-degree angle, but rather with an angle of 115 to 120 degrees between the torso and thighs.

Q. When you're seated, do your feet touch the ground?

Consider using a stool if you've elevated your chair and your feet no longer reach the ground. Also, maintain a couple of inches between the back of your knees and the chair.

Q. If your chair has armrests, do they allow your shoulders to relax?

Consider lowering or getting rid of the armrests so your neck and shoulders can relax downward.

Check your posture

Have someone take a picture of you at your workstation and check to see if you are in a well-aligned posture, which means:

- Your eyes are looking straight.
- Your neck is not bent.
- Your forearms are parallel to the floor.
- Your low back is in its natural curve.

This can provide another perspective to help you make adjustments.

Talk to your employer, as well, to see if additional items can be provided to assist you, if necessary, such as a standing workstation or a sit-stand desk. The latter setup allows you to raise and lower the height of your computer and peripherals.

Consider these best practices

Also consider these best practices to support good health and posture:

- Set a timer and get up every 30 minutes. Take a walking meeting, stand or exercise during a conference call, or hand-deliver a message when you would normally email it.
- Follow the 20-20-20 rule. Every 20 minutes, give your eyes a 20-second break by focusing on something at least 20 feet away.

Being mindful of healthy work habits can go a long way to reducing neck and back pain, as well as creating a more positive work experience.

Jill Henderzahs-Mason, P.T, D.P.T, Mayo Clinic Healthy Living Program, Rochester, Minnesota. ©2021 Mayo Clinic News Network. Visit newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

COVID queries: Do I need the vaccine if I've had COVID-19?

Q: I already had COVID-19 and recovered. Why should I get the vaccine when my body is already immune to it now?

A: When someone has had an infection, and the body has produced antibodies as a result, this is called "natural immunity." But early evidence suggests natural immunity to COVID-19 may not be very long-lasting.

At least one study indicates that if you had COVID-19 and are not vaccinated, your risk of getting COVID-19 a second time are about two times greater than for people who were infected but did get vaccinated.

"Even if you've had COVID-19, whether it was a mild case or more severe, we still very much recommend that you get the vaccine," says Martin Herrmann, M.D., medical director of Mayo Clinic Health System in Waseca and New Prague. "It's important to do all you can to protect yourself against this virus. Plus, getting vaccinated protects others as well because it reduces the spread of COVID-19."

One caveat to keep in mind is that if you've recently had COVID-19 and were treated with monoclonal antibodies, you should delay your vaccination for about 90 days. Monoclonal antibodies are proteins made in a laboratory that mimic the body's immune response, and they can keep you from developing a robust response to the vaccine. ***(Mayo Clinic News Network)***

Information in this post was accurate at the time of its posting. Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, scientific understanding, along with guidelines and recommendations, may have changed since the original publication date. ©2021 Mayo Clinic News Network. Visit newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

HEALTHY LIVING
Tea thyme
Steeping thyme leaves in boiling water yields a tasty tea that can be used to relieve respiratory ailments.
Benefits of oils in thyme
• Fight bacterial, viral and fungal growth
• Can be used to calm dry cough, bronchitis, asthma, hay fever
Source: Herbal Medicines, Pharmacy and Health; Physicians' Desk Reference; TNS Photo Service

Attention to all CNMI building contractors, experts

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, in partnership with the CNMI Infrastructure and Recovery Program under the Office of the Governor, will be conducting free trainings and small group sessions throughout the month of November to address coastal construction techniques.

The focus of the trainings will be on the theme "Building Resilience in the CNMI," with topics on building design, identifying hazards (flood and wind), siting, design and construction of building foundations, roof systems, and the maintenance of buildings.

FEMA Mitigation Assistance Team instructors will lead the trainings and be available for small group meetings and virtual office appointments from Nov. 3 through Nov. 17.

The first two-day coastal construction training will be on Nov. 9-10, with the second on Nov. 15-16. Both sessions will be held at the Aqua Resort Club from 7:30am to 4pm.

The CNMI IRP encourages members of the community, specifically residential construction workers, general contractors, building inspectors, code enforcement officials, design professionals and interested residents, to join the trainings to learn more about coastal construction techniques and their applicability in the CNMI.

The MAT trainers have vast experience in disaster assessments, building and post-disaster construction to alleviate the impacts from future disasters.

The instructors include:

- John Squerciati, P.E., CFM, a senior associate at Dewberry Engineers, Inc., with over 23 years of post-disaster damage assessment and hazard mitigation experience as a FEMA technical assistance contractor.
- Jon Chipperfield, PhD, PE, is experienced in post-hurricane inspections and mitigation assessments after working 2017 hurricanes Irma and Maria. He also assisted in the construction management of new roofs in the U.S. Virgin Islands due to hurricane damage.
- Matthew Holland, P.E., CFM, with over 15 years in structural engineering and design experience, including the design and preparation of construction documents for multi-story office buildings, elementary schools, retail centers, shopping malls, churches and homes.
- Donnell Clark, a key member of the CNMI MAT field team and is a mitigation project specialist with multiple years of engineering and construction experience in project design and inspection.
- Gregory Wilson, a FEMA emergency management specialist for the Building Science Branch, where he has been involved in promoting and advancing the International Building Codes, drafting building code proposals and testifying before the International Code Council.
- Yana Tukvachinski, a FEMA building science lead who has promoted resilience and contributed to several FEMA publications and products, including the Puerto Rico Prescriptive Residential Designs and Expanding Mitigation Guide series. Before FEMA, she worked on disaster risk reduction projects with local governments in the Philippines.

Professionals interested in joining the trainings, small group sessions or virtual office hours are encouraged to contact CNMI IRP project liaison Deveney Dela Cruz at irp@irp.gov.mp. Class sizes are limited. ***(PR)***

Micafe Snack Bar is now a proud NMC ProaPerks partner. More information about their special promotion for ProaPerks card holders can be found at marianas.edu/proaperks. NMC

Micafe Snack Bar is latest ProaPerks partner

Micafe Snack Bar is the latest company to sign on as a Northern Marianas College ProaPerks partner, joining many other businesses and organizations that provide exclusive discounts and benefits for NMC students, employees, and alumni.

All card-carrying members of the NMC ProaPerks program can now receive a 10% discount on food and beverages at Micafe Snack Bar in Dan Dan.

NMC is in the introductory phase of rolling out the ProaPerks to alumni, students, and employees. For more information, visit marianas.edu/proaperks.

Companies and other interested organizations who would like to become part of the ProaPerks program and take advantage of the buying power of thousands of individuals that include Northern Marianas College alumni, students, and employees, can find more information by emailing proaperks@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

'Build Back Better' draft contains SSI, Medicaid expansion for US territories

The U.S. Congress released Friday the draft text of the proposed budget reconciliation bill, including what would be historic expansions of the Supplemental Security Income program and Medicaid to residents of U.S. territories, according to a news release from Equally American.

If Congress acts based on this draft language, it could mean monthly SSI checks of up to $794 directly to more than 300,000 of the most vulnerable residents of U.S. territories. The proposed Medicaid expansion would bring these programs much closer to full parity, greatly expanding healthcare availability for low-income territorial residents.

"If the proposed expansions to SSI and Medicaid are enacted into law, this would represent a truly historic step toward equality for the 3.5 million U.S. citizens who call the territories home," said Neil Weare, president and founder of Equally American, which has long advocated for expanding SSI and Medicaid in the territories. "We still need to keep pushing though to make sure these proposals are actually enacted into law."

Pages 551-556 of H.R. 5376, the Build Back Better Act, detail the proposed expansions to Medicaid, and pages 182-1684 detail the proposed changes to SSI. The entire draft itself totals1,684 pages.

"Over the last few weeks I've corresponded with hundreds of residents of Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa whose lives have been severely impacted by the denial of SSI benefits to residents of the territories," Weare said. "I'm hopeful that Congress may finally provide them the relief they've been seeking for so many years. But we can't rest until this becomes law."

Residents of U.S. territories who may benefit from SSI are encouraged to continue sharing their stories by completing Equally American's SSI Survey, available in English at https://www.equalrightsnow.org/ssisurvey, or in Spanish at https://www.equalrightsnow.org/ssisurveyespanol. Or they may contact Equally American directly at nweare@equallyamerican.org or 202-304-1202.

As Congress and the Supreme Court both continue to consider the expansion of SSI benefits to residents of U.S. territories, Equally American will continue elevating the voices of people whose lives have been impacted by the denial of these federal benefits. ***(PR)***

Caregiver gets a hand, but kids foot the bill

DEAR ABBY: My mother has had serious health problems lately. She had a brain tumor that was successfully removed. Four weeks later, she needed major colorectal surgery. I stepped up and used my vacation and sick time to care for her. I don't earn a lot of money, but I make enough to support myself.

During Mom's illness, my car broke down, and my brother offered to get it repaired since I was with her 24/7 for about six months. I was grateful because I didn't have time to manage that situation. He returned the car to me with an itemized bill for around $3,600, and I repaid him on a monthly basis. When the bill got down to about $1,200, he told me that he'd taken a collection from our family and the rest of the debt was forgiven.

Abby, I just learned he didn't take a collection from "our family." He took a collection from my CHILDREN. I don't want to list all the reasons why this is upsetting. My children are adults. I did not pay for their college. They're all self- supporting and have made their own way in life. I'm very proud that they stepped up to the plate when my brother rolled them, but I didn't raise my kids expecting them to take care of me or support me in any way.

Is it unreasonable of me to be angry at him for doing this? We have 75 family members. My parents are the oldest ones left. For the last 17 years I have taken them to every medical appointment and surgical procedure with no help from anyone. My brother ran the vacuum cleaner only three times during the six months Mom was sick. Am I right to think what he did was wrong?

BOTHERED IN THE EAST

DEAR BOTHERED: You are entitled to your feelings. Before soliciting your children for the $1,200, it would have been better had he let the other 73 relatives know you needed a hand. If he had, it would have cost less than a good meal. Because you feel it was wrong for your children to have forked over the money, offer to repay them if it will make you feel better. But don't be surprised if they refuse. (By the way, they seem pretty terrific, and so do you.)

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I live in a state where it is illegal for employers to ask their employees about their vaccination status. I am vaccinated and cautiously eating inside restaurants now. Since I can't ask a manager about the vaccination status of employees, can I ask a server about it when they approach? How should the question be phrased? I have asked the person who cuts my hair and the people at my doctor's office, but I am unsure how to ask in a restaurant.

QUESTIONS IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR QUESTIONS: If you do not know a person's vaccination status, proceed with caution. If you have established a relationship with a server and feel comfortable asking, ask. Otherwise, use your common sense about your safety. Your server should be masked. If the person is not masked, you should be patronizing a different establishment.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

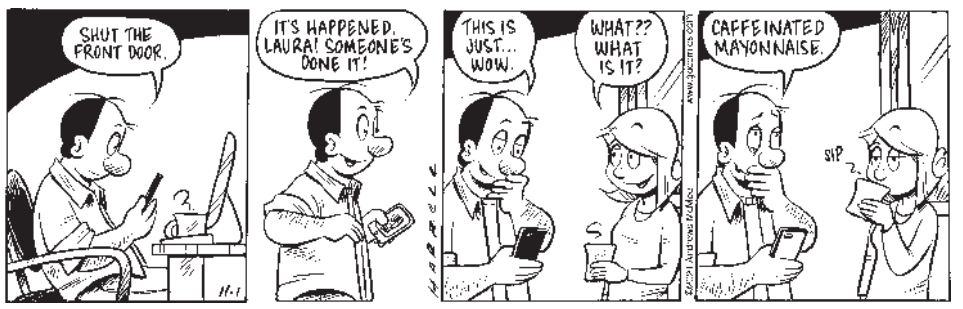
Pay up, Squirt.
FORGET IT, MOE. I'M NOT GIVING YOU MONEY.
IN FACT, I DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY.
Gee, that's too bad.
OH WAIT, YES, I DO! HERE.
FOR A KID WITH A MONOSYLLABIC VOCABULARY, HE'S AWFULLY PERSUASIVE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Egyptian cobra
4 Purse
7 Notoriety
11 McEnroe's rival
13 Capote nickname
14 Nile wader
15 Taxi alternative
16 Salt source
17 Answer an invite
18 Stuns, as a perp
20 Rara —
22 Fine, at NASA
24 Country song?
28 Smuggle
32 Nile city
33 Incite
34 Candied veggie
36 Misfortunes
37 To the point
39 Interferes
41 Dangerous fly
43 Stir-fry pan
44 Lend a hand
46 Lightheaded
50 Rani's dress
53 Sleep acronym
55 Skater Lipinski
56 Conspiracy
57 Assoc.
58 Openhanded hit
59 Evergreen trees
60 "Delicious!"
61 Online chats, briefly

DOWN
1 Border on
2 Japanese noodles
3 Corp. VIP
4 "Butter" K-pop band
5 Bailiwick
6 Tropical fruit
7 Emergency items
8 Sit-up targets
9 Roman 1004
10 Sixth sense
12 Album of top songs
19 Scale member
21 Business mag
23 Crucial
25 Mound
26 — Stanley Gardner
27 Rolling stone's lack
28 Cigar remnant
29 Raw minerals
30 Shrek, for one
31 Leg, in slang
35 Kitten's cry
38 Compass pt.
40 Pooch
42 "The Jetsons" boy
45 Lima's land
47 Surrealist Salvador
48 Small amount
49 Shrill barks
50 CIA operative
51 Pub pint
52 Tier
54 "Ben-Hur" studio

Solution time: 26 mins.

W	O	K	■	M	A	R	Y	■	S	C	U	D
U	N	I	■	A	R	N	E	■	C	U	K	E
S	E	E	D	L	E	S	S	■	O	P	E	N
S	A	V	■	O	N	■	I	A	N	■	■	■
■	■	■	A	N	A	■	S	M	E	L	L	S
S	C	E	N	E	■	P	E	P	■	O	O	H
P	O	I	F	■	F	O	F	■	T	O	G	O
E	R	E	■	T	O	W	■	T	C	T	E	D
C	A	V	■	A	R	■	A	I	S	■	■	■
■	■	■	S	U	E	■	D	E	C	O	D	E
F	O	A	L	■	S	E	E	S	A	W	E	D
I	O	T	A	■	E	L	L	E	■	E	L	I
R	O	A	M	■	E	K	E	S	■	S	E	T

Last Friday's Answer 11/01

1	2	3	■	■	4	5	6	■	7	8	9	10
11			12	■	13			■	14			
15				■	16			■	17			
18				19	■	20		21		■	■	■
■	■	■	22		23	■	24			25	26	27
28	29	30				31	■	32				
33				■	34		35	■	36			
37				38	■	39		40				
41					42	■	43			■	■	■
■	■	■	44			45	■	46		47	48	49
50	51	52		■	53		54	■	55			
56					57			■	58			
59				■	60			■	■	61		

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Natalia Tena, 37; Toni Collette, 49; Jenny McCarthy, 49; Anthony Kiedis, 59.

Happy Birthday: Verify information, and let your intuition guide you. Make decisions that reflect realistic plans. Get rid of dead weight, and simplify your life. Restructure your expenses to fit your financial intake. Ease stress instead of exacerbating whatever situation you face. Head in a direction that offers comfort and joy. Live in the moment, and stop regretting the past and fretting about the future. Your numbers are 9, 14, 20, 23, 36, 39, 41.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Pay closer attention to the way you present yourself to others. Learn from experience that knowledge and qualifications are essential, but fitting in can be the best sales pitch you can offer. Do whatever it takes to promote yourself. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Live and learn. When you see something you want, don't hesitate. Take matters into your own hands and figure out a cost-efficient way to reach your goal. Change is part of life, and initiating what's required is up to you. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Size up what will cost before you get started. Taking control, setting a budget and organizing your time will help you ensure that you manage your time responsibly. Romance is in the stars, and charm will dazzle someone you love. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Follow a path that allows you to use your skills uniquely. It's OK to do things differently or to venture off in your own direction. Expand your circle of friends, and you'll encounter experiences that promote new ideas. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Put more thought into the best way to proceed. The troubles you face are best dealt with smartly and efficiently; mistakes are likely if you let your emotions take over. Compromise, but don't let your generosity set you back. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Keep an open mind, but don't jeopardize your physical well-being. Stick to what and who you know and trust, and don't venture into restricting situations. You'll experience regret if you hesitate to take advantage of an opportunity. Embrace change. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Adjust your schedule and arrangements to spend time with someone you enjoy being around. A deep conversation will offer mental stimulation that pushes you in an unexpected direction that alters the way or where you live. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Rethink your emotional attitude and the reason behind the decisions you make. Take the first step forward, and put your mind at ease. Take better care of yourself before you offer to take care of others. A reality check is overdue. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* You'll receive mixed messages; ask direct questions, and use your intelligence to figure out what's best for you. Charm will work wonders when you are trying to get to the bottom of a situation that is tainted with outside influences. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Treat money, legal and health issues realistically. Mull over your options carefully. A change at home will make it easier to get things done on time. Fix up your space to reflect what you are trying to achieve. Don't take unnecessary risks. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't take what others say or do to heart. Take care of responsibilities, and lend a helping hand to someone who is struggling. Change begins with you, and the moment you recognize what you must do, the sooner you will make progress. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Tie up unfinished business, and sort through mixed emotions that surface regarding someone close to you at work or home. Assess the situation, and consider the financial repercussions before you decide to make a move. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, resourceful and persuasive. You are wise and persistent.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2		9		1	3	7	8	
			4			6		1
4								
		6		3	7	4		
			1	4	5			
		3	2	9		1		
								8
6		1			9			
	3	8	6	5		9		2

Difficulty Level ★ 11/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

2	6	9	3	7	1	4	5	8
4	8	1	5	2	9	7	3	6
5	7	3	8	4	6	9	2	1
1	2	5	6	8	4	3	9	7
8	3	6	7	9	5	1	4	2
9	4	7	2	1	3	8	6	5
7	5	8	9	3	2	6	1	4
3	1	2	4	6	7	5	8	9
6	9	4	1	5	8	2	7	3

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

QUARTERBACKS HAVE A TOUGH JOB **Solution: 7 letters**

D	S	E	T	E	L	P	M	O	C	P	I	C	K	S
A	E	E	H	T	G	N	E	R	T	S	T	C	S	Y
S	C	C	T	N	R	E	C	E	I	V	E	R	L	A
T	E	C	I	A	T	S	L	Ⓚ	W	H	A	R	A	L
A	V	M	U	S	M	B	S	Ⓒ	C	S	E	S	N	P
R	I	S	C	R	I	M	M	Ⓐ	G	E	P	C	G	D
T	T	N	A	D	A	O	A	Ⓢ	P	E	H	R	I	R
I	I	D	U	A	L	C	N	E	T	C	A	E	S	A
N	S	A	K	G	A	E	Y	S	T	B	R	L	S	W
G	O	E	L	P	T	D	A	I	P	U	N	T	E	R
K	P	I	T	F	H	O	P	D	S	O	O	T	N	O
A	N	A	A	U	R	W	H	S	E	U	I	O	S	F
E	I	R	E	Z	O	N	E	S	C	R	D	S	E	A
N	D	R	O	P	W	R	T	H	G	I	T	S	E	K
S	C	H	A	M	P	I	O	N	S	H	I	P	S	E

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Accuracy, Arms, Audible, Captain, Championships, Check, Complete, Decisions, Down, Draft, Drop, Dual, Fake, Forward, Grab, Leader, Line, Pass, Peer, Picks, Pitch, Plays, Poise, Positive, Pressure, Punter, Receiver, Routes, Sack, Scrimmage, Sense, Shotgun, Signals, Sneak, Starting, Steps, Strength, Sweep, Teammates, Throw, Tight, Timing, Toss, Touch, Trap, Zone

Last Friday's Answer: Amphibian

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

Unlikely hero, 2 HRs carry Braves to brink of Series title

ATLANTA (AP)—This Atlanta Braves team couldn't have picked a more fitting way to move to the brink of a World Series championship.

A pitcher who spent most of the year in the minors kept 'em in it.

A slugger who came in a flurry of trades won it for 'em.

If this gritty bunch can do it one more time, the Braves will have their first Series title in 26 years.

Dansby Swanson and pinch-hitter Jorge Soler connected for back-to-back homers in the seventh inning Saturday night, propelling the Braves to a 3-2 victory over the Houston Astros and a commanding 3-1 Series lead.

Game 5 is Sunday night. The Braves can wrap up the championship on their home field, just as they did two stadiums ago when they beat the Cleveland Indians in 1995.

They've sure been tough at home, improving to 7-0 this postseason.

"It's just such a cool moment for this city," Swanson said. "But we've got one more. They've got a great ballclub over there and we can't take anything for granted."

That triumph more than a quarter-century ago at the old Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium remains the franchise's only World Series crown since moving to the Deep South in 1966.

This is the closest the Braves have been to a second title since then.

What an improbable crown it would be.

The Braves stumbled along at .500 or worse until Aug. 6. They had to rebuild their entire outfield before the July 30 trade deadline after Ronald Acuña Jr. went down with a knee injury and Marcell Ozuna was sidelined by a hand injury and legal troubles. They won the NL East with just 88 wins, the fewest of any playoff team—and less even than two teams that didn't make the postseason.

With former president Donald Trump watching from a private box down the right-field line, the Braves got a huge boost from a most unlikely player.

Former first-round draft pick Kyle Wright, who made only two appearances in the majors during a season spent mostly at Triple-A Gwinnett, got through 4 2/3 critical innings out of the bullpen after surprise starter Dylan Lee retired only one hitter.

Wright was hardly overpowering, giving up five hits—including a solo homer by Jose Altuve in the fourth that staked the Astros to a 2-0 lead—and three walks. But he continually pitched out of trouble, giving the Braves a semblance of hope until the offense woke up.

Atlanta Braves' Jorge Soler runs the bases on his go-ahead solo home run against the Houston Houston Astros as Guillermo Heredia comes out of the dugout to cheer during the seventh inning of Game 4 of the baseball World Series, Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, in Atlanta. AP

"He probably doesn't realize what he did, how big it was," Atlanta manager Brian Snitker said. "I'm so proud how he handled the situation."

Wright has a career record of 2-8 with a 6.56 ERA. In two 2021 starts for the Braves, he was 0-1 with a 9.95 ERA.

"Honestly, I was a little lost," he conceded.

He found himself just in the nick of time for the Braves.

In the sixth, Eddie Rosario became the first Atlanta hitter to get past first base with a one-out double off Brooks Raley.

Rosario wound up scoring on another clutch postseason hit by Austin Riley, who lined a two-out single to left against Phil Maton.

The Braves left the bases loaded, but they weren't done. Just like that, they stunningly engineered the first lead change of the entire Series, with Swanson and Soler becoming the third duo in World Series history to hit back-to-back homers that tied and put a team ahead.

The first two guys to do it were named Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig.

Facing Cristian Javier, Swanson went the opposite way for a homer that tied the game at 2, the ball hit so hard that it ricocheted off the tabled section in the right-field stands and rolled all the way back to the infield.

"It was like, 'You know what? Let's get rid of everything else and just compete,'" Swanson said. "And you know what? Something amazing happened."

The celebration had barely simmered down when Soler, one of four outfielders acquired in trades by general manager Alex Anthopoulos, stepped to the plate as a pinch-hitter.

On a 2-1 pitch from Javier, Soler put a charge into a hanging slider and drove it into the Astros' bullpen in left. Yordan Alvarez was left hanging helplessly atop the short fence as the ball sailed over his head.

Luke Jackson worked a scoreless eighth, getting a great catch from Rosario slamming into the same left-field wall that Soler homered over, and Will Smith worked a 1-2-3 ninth for his sixth save in six chances this postseason.

The Astros could only kick themselves for squandering countless chances, going hitless in eight at-bats with runners in scoring position and leaving 11 on base overall.

"They've been playing us tough. They've been playing us real tough," manager Dusty Baker said. "We've had our backs to the wall before. Our guys know what to do."

Seven teams have come back from a 3-1 deficit to win the World Series, with the Cubs being the most recent in 2016.

The Braves certainly know it's not over. Last year, they squandered a 3-1 lead in the NL Championship Series and lost to the Dodgers.

Houston got just what it wanted from 38-year-old starter Zack Greinke, who threw four scoreless innings.

The bullpen just couldn't hold it.

Now, there's no more room for error.

"Just basically focus on one game at a time. That's it," Altuve said. "If we win tomorrow, then try to win Game 6 and see what happens. But we've got to focus on one game, and that game is tomorrow."

Altuve's homer was his 23rd homer in 77 postseason games, which pushed him to second place all alone on the career list behind Manny Ramirez with 29.

Altuve had been tied with longtime New York Yankees star Bernie Williams.

Only months after calling for a boycott of Major League Baseball, Trump chopped away with fans before the game while standing beside his wife, Melania.

Trump said he was invited to the game by Commissioner Rob Manfred and New York Yankees President Randy Levine. Major League Baseball denied making the invitation, saying the former president asked to attend the game.

Trump encouraged a boycott of MLB games after Manfred removed the All-Star Game from Atlanta over Georgia's new voting law.

Unlike the 2019 World Series in Washington, when Trump was booed while still in office, there was no obvious reception for the former president at Truist Park.

His appearance was not announced to the crowd.

Lee was one of the most unlikely starters in World Series history.

The 27-year-old left-hander had never pitched in the big leagues until the final weekend of the regular season, when he was called up from Triple-A to make a couple of appearances after the Braves had already locked up the NL East title.

He had been released by the Marlins at the end of spring training and signed a minor league deal with the Braves.

Lee didn't last long in Game 4, but he will forever be known as a World Series starter.

Game 1 loser Framber Valdez gets his second start of the Series for the Astros. The left-hander lasted only two innings last Tuesday, giving up eight hits, five runs and two homers in a 6-2 setback.

The Braves will counter with their second consecutive bullpen game. No word on who will be the opener in a start that would've gone to Charlie Morton if not for a broken leg that ended his season in Game 1.

Javier 3rd to allow consecutive tying, go-ahead HR in Series

ATLANTA (AP)—Cristian Javier spun after Dansby Swanson drove a 95 mph fastball with an 0-2 count to right field and watched the opposite-field drive sail over Michael Brantley and an inch or two over the top of the 16-foot brick wall, landing 359 feet away.

Pitching coach Brent Strom went to the mound and pinch-hitter Jorge Soler walked to the plate. Javier fell behind 2-1, and Soler sent a belt-high slider soaring to left.

Javier turned the other way and watched Yordan Alvarez crash into the 6-foot chain link fence armpit first as the ball whizzed just over for the fourth go-ahead home run by a pinch-hitter in Series history.

"Even though they had two homers, he made good pitches tonight," Astros second baseman Jose Altuve said. "I don't think he pitched bad. He's really good. He has a bright future in front of him."

Javier had been perfect this postseason, getting 27 outs without allowing a run. Less than 6 inches was the difference for him and the Astros in a 3-2 defeat Saturday night that dropped Houston into a 3-1 World Series deficit against the Atlanta Braves.

"He's really good," Swanson said. "This postseason he's been unbelievable, and he's obviously got really great stuff. In that moment, I think the compete factor is what went through the roof."

Javier had allowed just four hits this postseason coming in, striking out 15 and walking five.

He exceled with a 56-pitch 2 2/3 inning-outing against the Chicago White Sox in Game 3 of the Division Series, seven strikeouts over five innings in a pair of Championship Series wins over Boston and a four-out hold in the Game 2 World Series win over the Braves.

Javier became Houston's fourth reliever when he followed Phil Maton to start the seventh, protecting a 2-1 lead. He struck out Adam Duvall leading off but wound up allowing the third set of consecutive tying and go-ahead home runs in Series history, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig of the Yankees accomplished the feat off the St. Louis Cardinals' Bill Sherdel in Game 4 of 1928, and the Los Angeles Dodgers' Pedro Guerrero and Steve Yeager did it off the Yankees' Ron Guidry in Game 5 of 1981.

Swanson and Soler were the first pair to go back-to-back from the bottom two spots in the batting order. Soler matched the go-ahead pinch-homer feats of Dusty Rhodes (1954),. Kirk Gibson (1988) and Ed Sprague (1992).

A 24-year-old Dominican right-hander, Javier made nine starts and 27 relief appearances during his second major league season, going 4-1 with a 3.55 ERA.

"He's just now learning how to get warm as a reliever," Astros manager Dusty Baker said. "None of these guys are perfect. They could have popped those balls up, but they didn't. These things happen."

Beal, Dinwiddie lead Wizards past Celtics, 115-112 in 2 OTs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Bradley Beal scored 36 points, Kyle Kuzma added 17 points and a career-high 17 rebounds, and the Washington Wizards outlasted the Boston Celtics 115-112 in two overtimes Saturday.

Montrezl Harrell added 20 points and 14 rebounds before fouling out in the second overtime for Washington, which improved to 5-1 with its second victory over Boston in three games.

"We're just having fun, man" Beal said of a team that was dramatically restructured in the offseason. "We embrace each other on the daily. And it's amazing to be where we are. But ... we have that humble and hungry mentality. We haven't scratched the surface yet."

Spencer Dinwiddie added 20 points and sank the final Washington basket as the Wizards overcame 36.5% shooting (38 of 104) for their second overtime win of the season.

"It just shows our resilience," Washington coach Wes Unseld Jr. said. "I keep using that word, but it's who we are and who we have to be. And every night somebody else finds a way to step up and make a play for us."

Jaylen Brown had 34 points for the Celtics, who lost for the second time in three overtime games this season to drop to 2-4. The Celtics, who are in a similar period of transition to Washington without the early success, played only four overtime periods in all of the previous season.

"I think it shows how we're a good team and we're almost there," reserve Josh Richardson said of all the overtime games. "That once we get some more continuity on the offensive side of the ball, I think that hopefully we'll be able to finish these games out a little quicker."

Jayson Tatum added 27 points and a career-high 15 rebounds for Boston, but made just 10 of his 32 shots. He missed all five of his 3-point attempts on a night the Celtics shot just 2 of 26 beyond the arc as a team.

The night may have yet gone Boston's way without a pivotal moment with 1:14 remaining in the second overtime.

Officials originally called a foul on Deni Avdija, but ruled his play a clean block of Tatum's shot following video review.

Beal hit a runner high off the glass off the ensuing possession to give the Wizards the lead back, Tatum missed a difficult runner on the other end, and then Dinwiddie got his pull-up to fall to make it 115-112 with 20 seconds left in the second extra period.

Washington Wizards guard Bradley Beal, left, passes the ball against Boston Celtics forward Jayson Tatum, right, during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Oct. 30, 2021, in Washington. AP

After the teams traded turnovers, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope stripped Brown trying to attempt a tying 3-pointer.

"We wanted to get a 3 somewhere in there," Richardson said. "But I think the Wizards guarded the play pretty well."

Richardson scored 18 points.

"We stayed composed, we stayed within each other, and we got the job done," Caldwell-Pope said.

Spurs 102, Bucks 93

In Milwaukee, Dejounte Murray had 23 points and nine assists, and San Antonio pulled away in the final minutes for a victory over Milwaukee that snapped a four-game losing streak.

Derrick White added 17 points and Bryn Forbes scored 16 against his former team to help the Spurs (2-4) take down the defending NBA champions on the road.

Giannis Antetokounmpo led Milwaukee (3-3) with 28 points and 13 rebounds but was in foul trouble in the second half. Khris Middleton had 19 points for the Bucks, who lost their second straight home game.

Bulls 107, Pelicans 99

In Chicago, DeMar DeRozan scored a season-high 32 points, Zach LaVine added 26 and the Bulls handed the Utah Jazz their first loss, 107-99 on Saturday night.

The Bulls grabbed a 17-point lead in the fourth quarter and hung on after the Jazz pulled within five in the closing minutes.

Utah's Donovan Mitchell hit two free throws to cut it to 100-95 with 1:39 remaining. But Nikola Vucevic came through with two huge baskets to help Chicago knock off the NBA's lone remaining unbeaten team.

The two-time All-Star answered Mitchell's free throws with a 3-pointer. And after Rudy Gobert scored on a reverse, Vucevic drove for a layup to make it 105-97 with just under a minute remaining.

DeRozan, whose previous high was 26 points, made 13 of 22 shots.

LaVine, playing with a torn ligament in his left thumb, scored eight in the fourth quarter. Vucevic finished with 16 points—despite shooting 4 of 19—and 12 rebounds, and the Bulls (5-1) bounced back from a one-point loss to New York two nights earlier.

76ers 122, Hawks 94

In Philadelphia, Tobias Harris had 22 points and 11 rebounds, Joel Embiid added 19 points and Philadelphia routed Atlanta.

Philadelphia carried a 60-36 advantage over the Hawks in the paint while outscoring Atlanta by a 34-14 margin on fast-break points. Six Sixers finished in double figures with Tyrese Maxey (16), Seth Curry (15), Matisse Thybulle (11) and Shake Milton (11) all adding to the scoring party.

Cam Reddish led the Hawks with 16 points on 7-of-14 shooting from the floor. Trae Young and Bogan Bogdanovic each had 13 points, but Young struggled at 5 for 15 from the floor and only got to the foul line four times.

It was the first meeting between the teams since Atlanta beat top-seeded Philadelphia in seven games in the Eastern Conference semifinals. The 76ers' Game 7 defeat was punctuated by Ben Simmons passing on an open dunk in the final minutes—a flashpoint in the ongoing drama between the All-Star point guard and the organization.

Warriors 103, Thunder 82

In San Francisco, Stephen Curry scored 20 points in 27 minutes while getting ample rest, Draymond Green did a little bit of everything as usual, and Golden State thumped Oklahoma City.

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 15 for the Thunder, held to 35.8% shooting.

Green added 14 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists, and Andrew Wiggins also scored 14 in the second meeting over five days between the teams. The Warriors won 106-98 on Tuesday at Oklahoma City.

Curry was 2 for 6 for five points in the first half, 1 of 6 on 3s. The Warriors led 55-44 at intermission but the league's reigning scoring champion warmed up in the third and scored 15 that quarter.

Heat 129, Grizzlies 103

In Miami, Jimmy Butler scored 27 points, Tyler Herro added 22 and Miami used a strong shooting performance to rout Memphis.

Duncan Robinson and Kyle Lowry scored 15 points each, Lowry added eight assists as the Heat made 21 3-pointers, one short of the franchise record set last May at Milwaukee.

Ja Morant and De'Anthony Melton led the Grizzlies with 20 points each, Desmond Bane finished with 17 points and Kyle Anderson scored 13.

Pistons 110, Magic 103

In Detroit, Jeremi Grant scored 22 points, No. 1 pick Cade Cunningham added seven rebounds in his NBA debut and Detroit beat Orlando for its first win of the season.

Cunningham missed the preseason and the first four games of the regular season with a sprained ankle.

Kelly Olynyk had 18 points for Detroit, while Saddiq Bey and Josh Jackson each scored 13.

Brothers Franz (19 points) and Moritz Wagner (13) combined for 32 points for the Magic (1-6), including seven 3-pointers. Cole Anthony had 15 points and 10 rebounds.

Nuggets 93, Timberwolves 91

In Minneapolis, Nikola Jokic had 26 points and 19 rebounds as Denver completed a late rally to win its 12th in a row against Minnesota.

Monte Morris made a layup to break an 89-all tie with 2:04 to play, and Jokic added a pair of free throws to give the Nuggets a four-point lead, their largest of the game.

Malik Beasley scored all of his 18 points on 3-pointers to lead the Wolves, who got just 14 from Karl-Anthony Towns. Minnesota's big man shot 4 of 11 from the floor and had only eight rebounds.

Jokic's defense had a lot to do with that. Playing for the second straight night on an injured knee, the NBA's reigning MVP went 10 for 23 from the floor, dished seven assists and frustrated Towns inside.

Raptors 97, Pacers 94

In Indiana, Scottie Barnes scored 21 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to help Toronto beat Indiana.

Barnes, the No. 4 overall pick in the draft this year, hit a pair of free throws with 6.2 seconds remaining to give the Raptors the final margin. The Pacers' Domantas Sabonis missed a hurried 3-pointer in the final seconds.

The Raptors never led by more than three until the final quarter, then surged to a 92-84 advantage on Fred VanVleet's three with 1:44 remaining. VanVleet finished with 16 points. OG Anunoby had 15.

Sabonis led the Pacers with 22 points and 14 rebounds. Caris LeVert scored 15 in his season debut.

Suns 101, Cavaliers 92

In Phoenix, Devin Booker scored 27 points, Deandre Ayton added 17 points and 12 rebounds and Phoenix beat Cleveland.

The Suns used a 50-12 run to break open the game. The dominant stretch—which included a lot of Suns fast-break buckets and a lot of Cavs turnovers—lasted from the middle of the second quarter to late in the third and turned a 14-point deficit into a 24-point lead.

Booker added nine assists on his 25th birthday, including an alley-oop pass from halfcourt to Mikal Bridges for a dunk. Chris Paul added 16 points and 10 assists. Ayton shot 8 of 10 from the field but left in the second half with a right leg contusion.

Cedi Osman led the Cavaliers with 20 points off the bench. He made 6 of 12 shots from 3-point range. Cleveland coach J.B. Bickerstaff pulled most of his starters by the end of the 50-12 run, frustrated by their ineffectiveness.

Knicks 123, Pelicans 117

In New Orleans, what R.J. Barrett liked most about his career-best scoring night was the way it ended.

Barrett made two of his career-high six 3-pointers in the final two minutes to finish with 35 points, and the New York Knicks beat the New Orleans Pelicans 123-117 on Saturday night for their fifth victory in six games to start the season.

"It was fun of course—especially the type of game that that was," said Barrett, who has led the Knicks in scoring in each of their past two games, both victories.

The Pelicans "really made a push; it came down to the end of the game," Barrett continued. "So, it was definitely cool to have a career high. But, you know, I'm really happy we got the win."

Evan Fournier hit five from deep and scored 19, and Kemba Walker made four 3s and also scored 19 for the Knicks, who never trailed and led from the time Walker hit from long range 16 seconds after the opening tip.

"We're just playing with good flow and going with what's in front of us," Fournier said. "Tonight, it was R.J. that made shots and we kept going to him."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	5	1	.833	–
Philadelphia	4	2	.667	1
Toronto	4	3	.571	1½
Brooklyn	3	3	.500	2
Boston	2	4	.333	3

Southeast Division

Washington	5	1	.833	–
Miami	5	1	.833	–
Charlotte	4	2	.667	1
Atlanta	3	3	.500	2
Orlando	1	6	.143	4½

Central Division

Chicago	5	1	.833	–
Milwaukee	3	3	.500	2
Cleveland	3	4	.429	2½
Detroit	1	4	.200	3½
Indiana	1	6	.143	4½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Dallas	3	2	.600	–
Memphis	3	3	.500	½
San Antonio	2	4	.333	1½
Houston	1	4	.200	2
New Orleans	1	6	.143	3

Northwest Division

Utah	4	1	.800	–
Denver	4	2	.667	½
Portland	3	2	.600	1
Minnesota	3	2	.600	1
Oklahoma City	1	5	.167	3½

Pacific Division

Golden State	5	1	.833	–
Sacramento	3	2	.600	1½
L.A. Lakers	3	3	.500	2
Phoenix	2	3	.400	2½
L.A. Clippers	1	4	.200	3½

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	4	2	0	.667	203	98
New England	3	4	0	.429	179	140
N.Y. Jets	1	5	0	.167	80	175
Miami	1	6	0	.143	127	207

South

Tennessee	5	2	0	.714	193	164
Jacksonville	1	5	0	.167	116	172
Houston	1	6	0	.143	97	203

North

Baltimore	5	2	0	.714	187	164
Cincinnati	5	2	0	.714	189	128
Cleveland	4	3	0	.571	173	165
Pittsburgh	3	3	0	.500	117	132

West

Las Vegas	5	2	0	.714	180	166
L.A. Chargers	4	2	0	.667	148	150
Denver	3	4	0	.429	140	127
Kansas City	3	4	0	.429	188	203

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	5	1	0	.833	205	146
N.Y. Giants	2	5	0	.286	139	180
Philadelphia	2	5	0	.286	159	185
Washington	2	5	0	.286	146	210

South

Tampa Bay	6	1	0	.857	233	147
New Orleans	4	2	0	.667	140	101
Atlanta	3	3	0	.500	135	176
Carolina	3	4	0	.429	146	146

North

Green Bay	7	1	0	.875	192	167
Minnesota	3	3	0	.500	147	137
Chicago	3	4	0	.429	101	162
Detroit	0	7	0	.000	128	200

West

Arizona	7	1	0	.875	246	138
L.A. Rams	6	1	0	.857	207	146
San Francisco	2	4	0	.333	135	149
Seattle	2	5	0	.286	150	162

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Packers beat Cardinals 24-21 after Murray throws late INT

GLENDALE, Ariz. (AP)—Rasul Douglas was living the life of an NFL journeyman just a few weeks ago, bouncing between camps and practice squads in a frustrating process that is football's version of purgatory.

Finally, the Green Bay Packers liked what they saw.

Now he's a Thursday night hero for the league's hottest team—at one of his former team's expense.

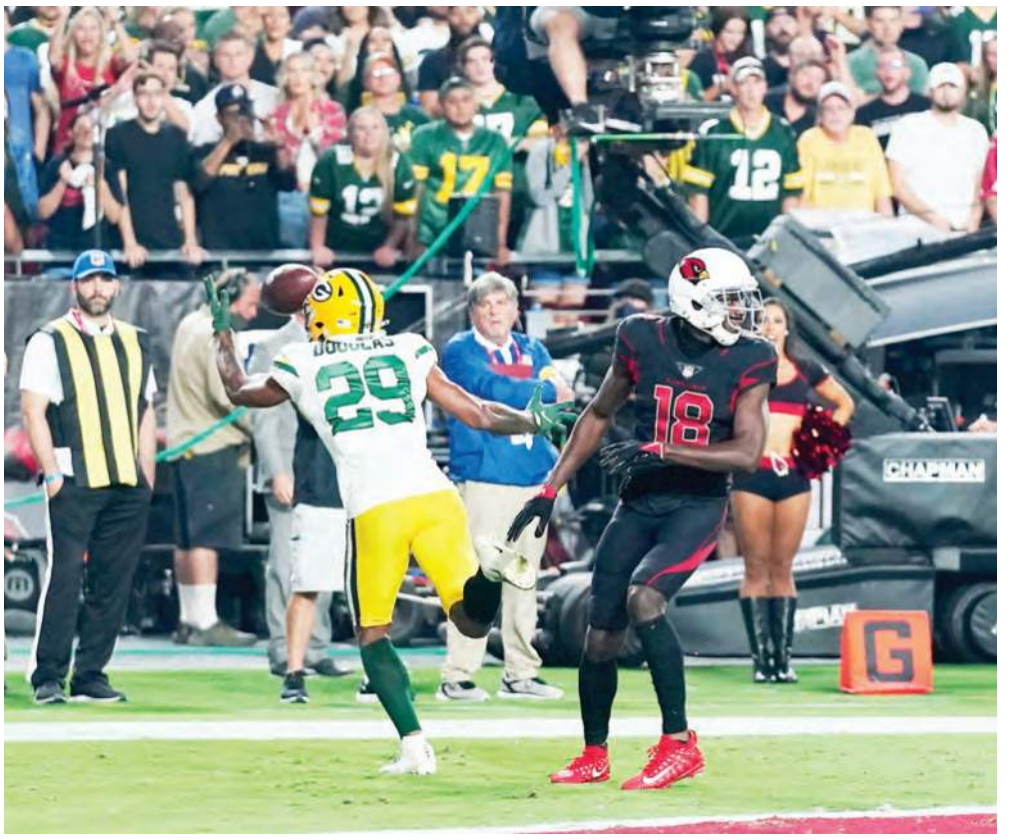
Douglas corralled an interception with 12 seconds left in the fourth quarter that helped the Packers knock off the previously unbeaten Arizona Cardinals 24-21 in a thriller that featured two of the NFL's top quarterbacks.

"Blessed," Douglas said. "You're in a crazy mental state being in the league for five years, never been on the practice squad before. You feel like you are working for nothing kind of. Then you get a call and you are somewhere else and you're playing."

The Cardinals looked like they were going to rally to win their eighth straight game but Kyler Murray threw the stunning interception on second-and-goal as the home crowd groaned in disbelief. A.J. Green didn't expect the pass to come his way, never turned around and Douglas was there to snatch the ball in the corner of the end zone.

"We weren't on the same page," Murray said. "And it cost us."

It was a big night for some lesser-known Packers players. Douglas was added to the active roster just three weeks ago when the team needed help in the secondary. He was signed off the Cardinals practice squad, where he spent a few weeks earlier this year.



Green Bay Packers cornerback Rasul Douglas (29) intercepts a pass intended for Arizona Cardinals wide receiver A.J. Green (18) in the end zone during the second half of an NFL football game, Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021, in Glendale, Ariz. AP

"This is why I love this squad," Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers said. "The guy that made the pick was with them (pointing to Cards sideline) for four weeks. He was on the street. We brought him in. He's starting for us. He's a great dude. He's really meshed well with our team. To come up with a play like that with 15 seconds left is incredible."

Randall Cobb's clutch night was much needed since Green Bay was playing without their two top receivers. Davante Adams and Allen Lazard were put on the reserve/COVID-19 list earlier in the week, but the 31-year-old Cobb responded with two touchdowns that were both tough catches in traffic.

"It was tough in the passing game at times, but Cobby came up with a couple of big touchdown catches," Rodgers said.

Cobb's 6-yard touchdown catch on the first play of the fourth quarter put the Packers up 24-14. He was once one of the NFL's top receivers — making the Pro Bowl in 2014 with 1,287 yards receiving and 14 touchdowns — but has settled into more a secondary role late in his career.

He only caught three passes on Thursday, but they were important ones. The Cardinals trailed for most of the night but rallied to pull within 24-21 on James Conner's second touchdown run of the game with 10:45 left in the fourth. Arizona then had a crucial goal-line stand late in the fourth — capped by Devon Kennard swatting down Rodgers' fourth-down pass — giving them the ball back at the 1-yard line and an opportunity to go 99 yards for the win.

They almost made it.

Green Bay (7-1) has won seven straight games after dropping the season opener. Arizona (7-1) was trying to set a franchise record for longest winning streak to start a season but instead tied the mark set in 1974.

Both teams were hampered in the early going by a lack of healthy receivers. The offensive pace picked up in the second half.

Green Bay's offense was a little more conservative without Adams and Lazard. Arizona's top receiver DeAndre Hopkins made a 55-yard catch in the first quarter but tweaked his sore hamstring on the play and didn't play for a big chunk of the game.

Green Bay grabbed a 10-7 halftime advantage by making a field goal after Cardinals rookie Rondale Moore mishandled a punt deep in Arizona territory.

Early in the third quarter, Murray threw a pass that was deflected by Moore into the hands of Green Bay's Henry Black at the Arizona 14. Five plays later, Rodgers found Cobb in the corner of the end zone for a touchdown and 17-7 lead.

The Cardinals responded, but fell just short of the win. Murray finished with 274 yards passing and two interceptions.

"We didn't play very well in the first half, I didn't call a very good game, couldn't get into a rhythm, took some negative plays," Cardinals coach Kliff Kingsbury said. "In the second half, guys responded and they've done that all year when we've struggled, to be able to come back and answer the bell.

"We just weren't able to finish this time."

The Cardinals were playing their first game without defensive end J.J. Watt, who reportedly needs shoulder surgery that could end his season.

Watt suffered the injury in last week's game against the Texans, though there was no indication that there was a problem after the game. The three-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year has 16 tackles and one sack this season.

GCEA

From Page 20

taking part in fun beautification activities.

The multi-faceted community-building campaign offers educational, artistic, and beautification activities for students and invites groups and organizations to join Marianas-wide beautification efforts.

GCEA will collaborate closely with the mayors of Saipan, Rota, and Tinian, and the Public School System to promote the campaign in all schools and villages.

DUNLOP

From Page 20

really good cardio-vascular workout. So it's good for me at my age," he added.

The 49-year-old Poole, seconded Dunlop on the benefits of the new island sport, adding that he's so enthusiastic about pickleball that they've already introduced it at MHS.

"It's a great exercise. We've already played at the Marianas High School Gym. We've already introduced it over there and we've taped up the court. It's a lot of fun," said Poole, who is originally from Houston, Texas.

Like Dunlop, Poole also plays tennis and said pickleball and tennis are quite similar save for a couple of rule changes.

"Courts are a bit smaller but it's pretty much the same strokes. Very similar to the old volleyball scores cause it's points on serves only so sets lasts longer that way…It's awesome we just love playing and in fact we were playing just before you called us over [for this interview]. Even if the tournament is over we just want to hit some more and play some more," he said.

Dunlop's better half, Marivic, finished third in the tournament with 99 total points. While she still loves playing tennis, pickleball is slowly growing on her because of the camaraderie.

"I'm so happy. I'm so glad I made it to third place. Last year when they started I played a little bit but I stopped because I love tennis. Then I came back to playing pickleball again in late December. Then I got injured so I stopped for five months. It's just a good group. It's just welcoming and fun and everybody's nice," said the 54-year-old who hails from Vigan, Ilocos Sur in the Philippines.

Aside from her wins partnering with her husband and Poole, Marivic teamed up with Hutchinson and won over Ray Austin and Lizunova, 21-2; with Ray Austin against Rose and Bloom, 21-12; and with Lucero against Cuellar and Muldoon, 15-7. The last game was concluded following the 20-minute ground rule of the tournament.

Pickleball was introduced on Saipan last year when Krum, fully recovered from hip replacement surgery, was looking to get back to his favorite sport of tennis.

He and his wife, Donna, soon founded Paradise Pickleball Club and just this August it celebrated its first anniversary. In just one short year, it has grown to 20 regulars with three courts at the Church of Latter-day Saints along Middle Road and four courts on Capitol Hill.

With over 3 million players, pickleball is arguably the fastest growing sport in the U.S. and its popularity has spread all over the world as pickleball is currently played in 57 countries—18 more countries and pickleball can qualify as an Olympic sport.

RUN

From Page 20

To replace last Saturday's Run Saipan Dash & Splash, the non-profit running organization is offering instead a virtual 5K this weekend.

"The good news is the event is now turned into a virtual race weekend for October's underground series so we will be eager to see who takes advantage of it. We still have a 5K race to fill in for October and are pleased to announce it's become a virtual 5K weekend for runners!" said Dela Cruz.

The October underground virtual 5K was from Friday, Oct. 28, to today, Nov. 1. Dela Cruz said the timeline is based off of CHST time zone. Participating runners must use the GPS in their watches or smart phones to track their run. After running the 5K, runners must then submit a screen shot of their run results, name, and age to runsaipan@gmail.com.

"You can also submit a picture of yourself (especially those of you're not on island). This race is open to everyone worldwide," added Dela Cruz.

Run Saipan's 5K Dash & Splash was supposed to be held last Saturday at the East Bay of Lao Lao Bay and it had a water element where runners can opt to take a dip in the water, hence the splash in the run's name.

For more information on Run Saipan's 5K Dash & Splash, contact Run Saipan at (670) 287-0891 or email runsaipan@gmail.com. To register, go to https://bit.ly/3iTxL5i.

Unlikely hero, 2 HRs carry Braves to brink of Series title PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Packers beat Cardinals 24-21 after Murray throws late INT PAGE 19

Dunlop, Poole top first-ever pickleball tourney

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Donn Dunlop and Leith Poole were named co-champions of the first-ever tournament pickleball tournament on Saipan organized by Paradise Pickleball Club last Saturday, Oct. 30, at the Capitol Hill tennis courts.

Dunlop, a retired boat captain, and Poole, a physical education teacher at Marianas High School, both totaled 105 points in the round-robin tournament where all 16 participants played five doubles matches with rotating partners. Both are relatively new to the sport, with Poole playing pickleball only the past 6-8 months, while Dunlop picked it up only three months ago.

Playing together, Dunlop and Poole defeated Mary Rose and Kseniia Lizunova, 21-2. Dunlop then teamed up with his wife, Marivic, and they beat Nelson Krum and Merle Byrd, 21-10. He then partnered with Aaron Hutchinson in overcoming Juan Cuellar and Dan Wollak, 21-5. Dunlop, with Gyan Lucero, also scored a 21-4 win over Ray Austin and Lily Bloom before teaming up with John Austin in taking down Maria Schultz and Michael Muldoon, 21-7.

Poole, for his part, teamed up with Lucero in triumphing over Hutchinson and John Austin, 21-9. He then partnered with Krum in turning back Ray Austin and Muldoon, 21-14. Poole, with Marivic Dunlop playing by his side, then walloped Schultz and Wollak, 21-3. His fifth win then came courtesy of playing with Byrd and the pair scored a 21-9 victory over Cuellar and Bloom.

Dunlop, who bagged a gold medal in beach volleyball in the 1999 South Pacific Games in Guam, seems to be a natural in pickleball as he also played tennis in the past and in fact was the playing coach of the CNMI national tennis in the 2002 Micronesian Games in Pohnpei.

"I'm brand new to the sport as I came from tennis and wanted to try something different. It's a lot of fun and a good workout," said the 65-year-old native of Southern California.

"What I like about this sport is it's a lot of fun and laughter. It's really social and it's a

See DUNLOP on Page 19

From left, Leith Poole and Marivic and Donn Dunlop pose after finishing in the Top 3 of the first-ever pickleball tournament on Saipan held last Saturday, Oct. 30, at the Capitol Hill tennis courts.
MARK RABAGO

Run Saipan Dash & Splash postponed to Nov. 13

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

With the recent spike in COVID-19 community transmission, Run Saipan has erred on the side of caution and postponed last Saturday's Run Saipan Dash & Splash to Nov. 13.

"Safety is always the No. 1 priority for us. We are supporting the governor for his mandatory 10-day order of school closure. We have a lot of students that signed up for the race and it would not be fair to deny them entry. We just want the community to be safe. I would like to thank the participants for understanding our decision and their patience to hold off until Nov. 13," said Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr.

See RUNon Page 19

Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr., seen here crossing the finish line of the Gecko 500 last Sept. 11, said they've postponed last Saturday's Run Saipan Dash & Splash to Nov. 13.
MARK RABAGO

GCEA thanks sports federations for clearing trails

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Governor's Council of Economic Advisers saluted the Triathlon Association of CNMI and the NMI Cycling Federation for bush-cutting and clearing the North Trails in Marpi last Oct. 17.

"The TRAC/NMICF spent their Sunday morning on Oct.17 clearing the North Trails in Marpi. These hike and bike trails are popular amongst resident mountain bikers and hikers, and are visited by our outdoor-loving tourists. The GCEA thanks the TRAC and NMICF for their arduous work to maintain these trails. Their work helps promote healthy activities for residents and visitors and perpetuates the love of hiking and biking in The Marianas!" said the GCEA in a statement.

TRAC general secretary Ricky Castro said around 40 TRAC and NMICF members took part in the bush-cutting and trail-clearing activity. The area that were cleared encompassed usual mountain bike and jungle trek routes like Banzai Cliff, Sta. Claus, and Auto Bahn trails.

Around 40 Triathlon Association of the CNMI and the NMI Cycling Federation members took part in a bush-cutting and trail-clearing activity in Banzai Cliff, Sta. Claus, and Auto Bahn trails last Oct. 17.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Castro said TRAC and NMICF have been clearing the North Trails in Marpi for several years now and is actually part of its public service.

"It's just a part of TRAC/NMICF community service as sports federations related to these activities so that the public have other places to enjoy the outdoors either by walking/jogging or mountain bike riding," he said.

GCEA recently celebrated the first anniversary of the success of its Public Private Partnership, in which PPP partners have committed to transforming public facilities, parks, and tourism sites. Last week, GCEA launched a new initiative, the Marianas Village Pride Campaign or MVP, to improve life in the Marianas by inspiring students and residents to show pride in where they live by

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